

The dates in **bold type** have been added for clarity .
Green text indicates insertion in original diary.
Red text indicates deletion in original diary.
Extraneous indicates material that appears to be extraneous to the dated entry.

Autobiography and diary, 1856-1882

Edwards, Esaias, 1812-1897

MSS 184

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Genealogy

[1]

My Mother had 5 sons. 3 Daughter
Andrew Jessie Jonathon Milton
Eli ., Daug Elizabeth Anna
Armilda
Andrew next oldest to myself
my grand Father
Garret Buckaloo
J.M. Polly
My grand Father
Tomas Edwards
June 9 1872
3[-] of Nov 1872.

[page 2]

Elizabeth Campbell x
27 Aug 1831
21. " ' 1832 D Saah Ann.
8 July. 1832. Georg Washington
His Father Died July 1833.
Coley
3 [-]25 October 1836 Polly Ann.
Afer Seroz sickness the Elders Blessed
her. and when she was able to walk
we went to the creek about Mile
and was Both Bobtised confirmed
Member of the church and we rejoiced
in the Happy Change which we had
experienced
21 July. 1835. Daughter ~~Polly Ann.~~
Louisa Jane. we make move to
Nauvoo
22 of Aug 1842 Tomas Andrew
the name of Both our Father

[page 1]

Letter-December 12, 1944

[2]

Provo Utah Dec. 28. 1944

Dear Sir

As I rec your welcom letter I went to see some of the dates I had kept and as my Husband Andrew Passed March the 12. 1943. and he was his Father ungest son and child and the was High Priest and the only one to to join the Church and the History Came to him, old and toren and Pages gone I sent you all I had. I have the date of his Birth April 10. 1812 Pike Co Missouri Died June 1897. St George Utah 85 I have his Old Bible and the records are Just of his Family. I sure Apreciate your Kindness as my Husband has Children and Grand Children that at some time May have time to look at it My Husband Married Jacob Hamblins niece in Logan Temple Oct 12 1892 he had 8 children and I Hope they will Apreciate his History I am his Second Wife I was Lora McQuisey. I bore 7 Children and am 78. and if there any more I can do to Help Pleas let Me Know. We was married Salt Lake Temple May 1918 have done work in the 4 Temples in Utah Thank you Mrs Andrew Edwards. 562 W 6 North Provo Utah

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One More thing was lolely to me he said Brigam Young Blessed him and Through his Faithfulness His Family Should be Blessed

[page 1]

Genealogy

[3]

Andndrew Edwards. son.
Esaias Edwards. Born Pike co Missouri April 10 1812
Died St George June 8. 1895. aged 85.
Belinda Miles Born July 14 1825 Alther. Co Ohio
Married Esaias Edwards Oct 24 1847.
Coucil Point Missouri River
Died Milsille Utah April 4 1890 75 aged.
Parents of 10 children. only 2 living Emma Sabbies
Burats Fork Wyoming Andrew Edwards. 562 W 6 North
My Father left Putawatomia Co Iowa. Provo Utah
for Salt Lake Valley. June 1. 1848. More than 1000

Miles capt Amas. Lyman 100 Familys 160 wagons
was detanied till 6 July. when it was thought Best
Deperate travel in smaller co. travel with Mosas Martin
the Feed was Poor. so we traveled 600 miles from Where
we left the Missouri River, the Feed was very scarce
for the distance of 150 miles. So I asked leave of cap
to travel on ahead. Abraham Hunt Sucher. .
Randolph Alexander 10 wagons. to company.
I had two yoke of oxen. 1 yoke of cows. 1 cow gave out
and so we traveled on to green RiverWyomig
I continued on Journey. My Family consisted of my
wife Belinda and two children by former Marage
Georg. Sarah Anne Pollienne, so we traveled till 5 day Oct
1848. Arived in great Salt Lake Valley. I settled
in Toole Valley. Brigham Young Blessed me and
my wives with Blessing through our Faithfullness

[page 1]

Letter-July 4, 1873

Page 1
Dimond Valley July 4 th 1873
To all whom it may concern
I Esaias Edwards, Having had
mayy things presented to my mind
concerning My Fathers house
hold or lineage. And also the old
est one that pertain to My Fathers
family, or household. My mind
has been wrought upon of late that it
is my duty and privilege to seek
out and look after the welfare of all
the decendents of my Fathers household
After having been absent in the
west for over forty years. It come
into my mind that I would return
to the Country in Illinois where my
Father Mother Brothers and so forth
is buried, and make a visit to those that
is stil alive and see them and learn
how they are all getting along. and
I did so and found many of my relativ

[page 2]

2
both they their children and gran
grand children haveing in creased
to large dimentions. And that is
not all or I might say that is not the
best of it. For among all the Edwarees
blood I did not find one that was
accused of being dishonest and that
done me a great deal of good to think
that I belonged to such a noble race

Of course they all have their
notions about religion, which they
and all other people have a right to
I have my own notions about religion
and one of the tenets is to be true and honest
hated to start out on that is the best part
about any kind of religion, but I don't
believe in hampering any person
in their religious belief about any
form of religious belief neither does
the Lord. One of my objects is to
search out my Father household and
gather them together for their tempo
ral salvation before the evil day that

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3
awaits the inhabitants of the earth
and especially this nation.
For I can tell you that the time
is close at hand that this nation will
be involved in wars and calamities
That it will be necessary for those
that wish to live in peace to flee to
Zion for safety. And it will be
necessary for all that wish to escape
the terrible famine to get together in com
munities and make preparation for
the things that are coming on the earth
Now in as much as it has fallen to my
lot to be the only one of my Father's house
hold that has been called out from all the
rest of my Brothers and sister un
cles and aunts Cousins and Nephews and
Sisters It seems to be my indispensi
ble duty to lift up my warning voice
to all my Father's household to gather
and help each other to build up a settlement
and City and call it name Edwardsville
and form a kind of cooperation

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4
And unite together when it suits
all the parties to accomplish certain
objects such as making ditches and dams
to secure the required amount like we
in establishing cleared grounds and
also if it should be necessary to fence in
large pastures When I took my
tour a year ago last summer in Illinois
and Iowa I found many of my Father's folks
that I never seen nor heard of before they
were in a scattered condition. They all
appeared to be honorable people. but

like myself was in a generally not verry
rich in this worlds goods nor was not verry
highly ede educated. and after I got
home, my mind run on the subject
in this manner that it was a great
pitty that we could not be associated
together more closley and learn and
teach each other how to accumulate
a good living and how to enjoy life to a grea
ter extent. and these was a plan surges
ted to my mind verry for erble

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Page 5

And that was that we all meet
and select some suitable place and
locate in a mild climate where we can
raise all kinds of fruit and vegitables
the appitite craves or the heart desires
And when I set my mind to work
I could find no place more suitable
than the little valley that I live in it is
the most suitable climate that I ever lived
in Cattle and horses live all winter without
feeding. the valley has not been settled
much yet on account of the sarcticy of
water But I have got a plan laid that
I think that I can get controll of all
the water that we need. I have 20 acrs
of land and the mast of it is good for
farming raising any kind of fruit
that the heart desires. and there is
goverment land on three sides of mine
that can be secured as soon as I can
get any person to take it up. The
most of the country round about is verry
rough a little lik the land of Canaan

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6

If the Edwards family should
assemble to gether. What is there that
they cant accomplish if they wil only
be united, we can have a coop store
and send east and buy our mercha
ndise at wholesale prices and not have
to pay rent or citty taxes and have a
clerk or more if it is needd of our own
community. We can send and get
the best quality of fruit and vegitables.
and then get up a premuim for the
best kind of fruit and vegetables and
the most of it on the least piece of land
and I believe that we can so arrange
it so that every one can have a citty tol

of one a cher to build on and water
to water a garden and also a piece of land.
it is not the biggest farm that pays the
best but that which is cultivated the
best and is planted with the fruit or vegitables
that wil pay the most profit
We wil need a good many citizens
bendes farmers if we wish we can plant

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7

a great many grapevines and make
wine and have a coop wine Cellar and
make a number article and we wil also
need one or two goood tinneers to make cand
fruit and vegitables and then we wil need
two or three good pedlers to be at all times
pedling our fruit and wine to the north
settlements and trade it off for wheat and
flour and get our supplys from those
and when the railroad comes to st george
we can send our early fruit and vega
tables there to the north before they can
get it from California We can make
tons of cand fruit and vegitables and
keep plenty at home for our own use
we can raise beets and carrots. enough
so that we can each one of us keep a cow
or two all winter and have milk and but
ter the year round, we wil also need
a good blacksmith or two there is a
good chance for a blacksmith here it
being on the main traveled road from
stg george to all the northern settlements

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we wil also want a water power
power and a small run of mils for
to grind and and chop our horse feed
and also to grind some corn meal [-----]
ally we wil want lots of carpenters
and masons and painters and plaster
ers to build up and beautify the City
of Edwardsville, we wil also want a
good runary to supply the place with the
best fruits that the country can produce
we wil also want some good hands to graft
and bud the best kinds of fruit that the wor
ld can afford. And now I wil tel you
what we dont want we dont want any
among us that wil take the Nam of the Lord
in vain or get drunk or idol their time
a way in foolish gaims such as playing
cards loafing their time a way other ways

But we want to raise lots of bees so that we can have lots of honey to use. We will also want to locate a good herd ground so that we can keep our cattle and horses and also sheep if necessary

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9

Now I want it to be understood
That what I have been for the
temporal salvetion and exaltation
for my Fathers house hold endeavor
ing to show how it is necerry for us
to unite in our temporal concerns to
attain to greatness and honor in uniting
with our wisdom and our means to excel
any other Community in beautifying
and have the best of food and raiment
And also haveing every thing in proper or[^]der

But as it was said about the savior
when he turned the water into wine that
best of the wine was kept to the last of the
feast To all those of my Fathers
household that loves to exel in attaining
to wisdom and inteligence that if they
wil come and be associated with me
that I wil be able the Lord being my
helper to teach them more scientific
knowledge than any person that can be
found in this little world, and that is
saying a good deal but it is so and if you
do not believe it Bring on your wise men

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10

and have the matter tested
I want it to be understood that I am not
Boasting atall For I am naturally
not verry intelegent it is true that I have
been seeking for wisdom or inteilgence
allmy life and have been able to
store away a gooddeal of wisdom
When I started out in life my mind
led me to investigat the principles of religeon
I was conviced that it was my duty to
Reverance the Lord that created all things
and especially, Men and wimin, and
in as much the Lord had given us certain
that it was our duty to respect him and obey
all of his commandments as we find them
written in the scriptures. And I have
endeavored in my weakness to live in
obediance to the same ever since and my
my mind has been lit up from time to
time ever since and especially of late

years and my mind led me at first
to write on Astronomy and geology
I rote a small pamphlet and got it printed
and then my mind led me to write of.

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11

A greater work on the same subject
beginning at the laying of the foundation
and tracing it in its differant degrees or
positions til the great superstructure was
finished and prepared for the habitation
of man, and I then followed it through
the diferant changes until it with all
the inhabitants that pertained to it by
That learned to keep the law the Lord
I have also written some additional
Items on the geological formations of the
earth But that is notall by along ways
My mind has been led to investi
gate the organization and destany of man
both of the body and spirit of man
commencing at the time when the spirit
and flesh become united, and tracing them
from that time til they grew together to
manhood also to old age death and resur
rection and after that through the diferent
Heavens or degrees of glory, that it wil take to
qualify us to enter into the highest glory
and that is into the Presence of God our Heavenly
Father

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12

It is the deepest work that I have
ever written upon. to commence at the
union of the spirit and body and have
them after they have become united as
they advance through the diferant changes that
they pass through from the time of the conception
til birth with the change of food and the way
the mortal body and the way the food is dis
posed of to build up and support the mortal
part of the body it is a secret that has been
kept hid from the learned men of the earth
But has been presented to my mind
by the wisdom of the all wise Deity which
I endeavour in my weakness to serve and
live in obediance to his commandments
to the best of my abilitys. And I Truly
feel thankful to him for every Blessing
that I have ever received from his bounti
ful hand. These is a new subject
that has never been written upon or spa
ken about by any one that I know of

And that is the organization for the spirit
of man it is a verry deep subject

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But I by the help of the Lord and
the power of inteligence which he has
been pleased to endow me with, have
been able to master the subject tolerable
satisfactorally. And I have writtn
upon the subject and have given keys for
others to work by so that perhaps some
person that has more wisdom than I have
can tel mor about the matter than I can
explain at present. But when I get
my books printed you can learn more
about it. The writing that I have done
is the most of it entirely new I dear that
has never entered the heart of man before
And that was according to my earnest
Prayer and request before I consented to
write on those subjects, that If I consented
to write on those subjects that I might have
new matter to write such as never been writ
ten before I never sought the Job of writing
But the spirit of God was upon melike
fire shut up in my bones and I could not
resist an so I consented on the condition

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14

on the conditions that I should have new
Matter to write. And the first thing that
my mind was led onto was Astronomy and
geology. And when I commenced to
write I had no trouble to studdy out matter
for the matter was presented to me as fast as
I could write it and so I continued to
write from time to time as matter was
presented to my mind til I was satis
fied on all the diferant subjects that my
mind was led on. After I had got
about through writing of Astronomy and
geology. My mind wanted to investi
gate the subject of the organization and
destany of man, and it was necessary
to go back to the first beginning and
that was a difficult Job for now
one had revealed the great Secret how
the Spirit and the body become united
to form a living soul and also how that
soul growed and was sustained in mor
tal flesh. These things you can read
when I get my books printed

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Now perhaps some persons may think
that I have been deceived in imaging concerning
the the things that I have been writing, but
I speak forth the truth in its simplicity and
I am ready to answer for any thing that I have
been writing. But what I have spoken
of is not all that I have written
I have written a work on the preservation
of the life of man which is of more
importance to some people than all the rest
of my writing that embrace a system
of living to be a hundred years old
and never need a doctor unless you
get a bone broken or a joint dislocated
and live a great deal better and [e-]e
cheaper than we do now
Well says one that is a great
promise and if I had faith to believe
that such a thing could be done I would
gladly try it. Well if you wish to try it
you can have the privilege to try it any
time by coming to Edwardsville
where I now live. For I expect to invite

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All my Father's household to
come and become associated with me
in a community. So that we can in-
struct each other, not that I expect to
interfere with any person's religious belief
but to seek out truth that pertains to both
temporal and spiritual matters. But espe-
cially to live with economy to secure the
blessings that pertain to this mortal life
for that is the thing which more immedi-
ately concerns us now for we expect a great
famine before long and by our united
exertion will be able to lay up grain so that
our community need not suffer for bread
And I do not know any place that can
be obtained that will suit any better than the
place where I live. I expect to go north to
Wellsville in Cash County pretty soon to tend
to business. But will be at home through the
winter and if any person wished to comm[-----]
with me on the subject you can write to me to
Wellsville till fall and then I expect to be at
home in Southern Utah my post office address

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Extraneous

5

organization of the earth accepted

But I have said enough about the gods in general and how they work to build up their kingdoms in general to satisfy myself at [^]present

I wil now come nearer home and examine the things that pertains to our God and his dominions The first thing is to designate the place of his resence and that is easy done for reason and common sense wil teach any person in possession of common sense that his dwelling place is in the center of his dominions and that is the Sun which giveth light and heat to all the plannets that revolve around her The next thing is to find out how this great luminary was created and became what it is now I wil hereby surgest the idea that the personage that we call the Deity or our Heavenly Father was once a mortal man like unto ourselves and has advanced by the laws of progression from one degree of per

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how our God builds his kingdom

fection to another as we expect to do til he arrived to the condition that he now occupies but it has took a long time to accomplish the work that he has accomplished since he left his Fathers house hold when he had arrived to manhood or had become in possession of that degree of inteligence so that he was necessary to qualify him to to commence to build a habitation or kingdom for himself. For in the first place he had to find a location far enough away so that it would not interfere with the habitation of other Gods which had already located their habitations in space and after he had made the location satisfactorily to all parties concerned he had to go to work and collect materials to commence to build his habitation of and then lay the foundation and build upon it I presume [page torn] that a great portion of the labour or work that it took to accomplish [page torn] was done by the use and power of faith and the use of electricity [page torn]

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6

and in as[^]much what is called oxen gas is one of the materials of which the atmos

phere is composed of and is abundant everywhere in a defused state or condition

the Deity undoubtedly used it to a great extent in his creative powers to produ[^]ce

action among the other eliments to cause action to take place for we understand

that heat is the moving cause of all action among all the ethereal eliments which

both composes and decomposes the eliments according to the quantity that is applied

thus it can be applied in such quantity as to produce to vegetation but it can be applied in such quantity to cause such intensity as to consume any combustible

substance desolve it and disintegreat it and drive it back into space there to remain

in a disorganized state or condition til it is caled for to be formed into emboddiments

again to suit that power of inteligence that operates upon it Thus we find that that heat is one of the most important eliments that is or can be used by

the Deity for creative or destructive purposes But there is a great variety of substances that exist in space that remains latent or inactive til called for by the Deity or his agents to be formed into emboddiments of solid

matter to be used in forming habitations or worlds as suits him best But we want to [^]know something about the commencement and progress of the

Deity in his laying the foundation of his habitation I presume that the habitation was round like he forms all ~~that~~ the Plannets that now roll around his magnificent habitation where he now dwels But upon what principle has his habitation become so much enlarged I dont know why we cannot liken the beginning of his habitation like that of a hornet which selects his place to build its nest or habitation and gets the material such as suits it best [page torn]nd commences it on a small scale at first and continues to enlarge it

the habitation as they become large enough [page torn]uit the increase of its brood as long as it lives its brood also assists in buildi[^]ng

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Now it looks like a hornet was a curious thing to represent the works of the Deity to but I only use it as a figure of representation in order to show what my idea is concerning the order of the commencement of the creatio[^]ns of the gods for that great luminary that we call the sun that gives light and heat to all the plannets that revolve around it certainly had a beginning of its organization by the emboddiment of matter being collected together

from the etherial matter of space and was begun and enlarged til it attained to the magnitude that we now behold it and all the plannets that we behold revolving around it certainly had a beginning of emboddiments and growed to the size that they now are by being fed from the substances and gasses that once was in a defused condition in the immensity of space But in as much as all sollids is derived from the gasses which was origin ally in a verry defused state or condition it certainly took time to bring it about

therefore we wil suppose that our Heavenly Father commenced his dominions or habitations on a small scale at first and continued the enlargements as fast as he could according to the circumstances in which he was operating I presume that he like the hornet did not need much room at first but as his posterity increased and he had more help he continued to ad to his domin

ions 'til he used up all the available matter that was convenient in that portion of space and he then went or sent his servants further off and gethered from new fields and concentrated the matter into worlds or plannets and caused them to revolve around the center habitation stil becoming more refined as they approached nearer til when they arrive home they with all the inhabitants or children that pertains to them wil be perfec [page torn]

they being perfected and celestialized and the children that pertains to th[page torn]

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all learned to keep the celestial law which is the highest law that was given to them they will be permitted to enter under the celestial curtain and occupy the space in their Fathers kingdom that has been prepared and reserved for them there to dwell for ever and then they will be saved with an everlasting salvation in the kingdom of their everlasting Father But I wish to make some further remarks about the the sun the residence of our Heavenly Father the sun is an immense body of some substance but it has never been ascertained by the astronomers what that substance is composed of perhaps the most of us has seen or heard tell about the black or dark spots that is seen on the suns disk sometimes these spots has been defined

by the astronomers to be openings or partings of the bright envelope of the sun for the main body of the sun is surrounded by a bright envelope which is a little similar to the earth being surrounded by the clouds at times Well this bright envelope that surrounds the main body of the sun serves two purposes that is it gives light and heat to all the planets that moves around it as well as to hide from the sight of mortal beings the glorious departments of all the sanctified worlds that are there Now I wish to explain a little more of my views about the sun it appears to be of an immense size large enough to take in under the outward envelope thousand worlds like this earth on which we live and do you think that there is unoccupied space there I dont think but what all that space inside the envelope that surrounds what we call the sun is occupied by sanctified or celestialized worlds that has been created [page torn] and has had a probation amidst space and has become purified and [page torn] prepared for a reception amidst the sanctified worlds that has gone before

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After having written [stain] the chapter on the organization of spirits and their progress [stain] become Gods and learned to organize worlds and people them [stain] the planets and people them I now design to present [stain] investigations still further concerning the Sun and the planets and [stain] order to do so I will make use of which I find written on the occasion by [stain] astronomers that been investigating the matter for hundreds of years [stain] with the aid of their powerful telescopes and has made great progress in the development of sciences but they have not found out every thing that exists yet I believe that what they have written on the subject is in a common way pretty correct so far as size distance

measurements motions revolutions diameters and so forth is in a general way pretty correct I will therefore introduce them in the order that they are arranged commencing at the sun and follow them outwardly to the furthest planet making such remarks about each one as shall be presented to my mind The sun is of immense size being 1400000 times larger than the earth according to the calculations of the astronomers but is but one fourth as heavy according to the bulk of it it is found to revolve on its axis once in twenty five days thus we see that none of the works of the Deity is idle but every thing is in motion which is life but how is it that the sun is so much lighter than the earth according to its size I will suggest the Idea that the interior of the sun is hollow and contains perhaps thousands of sanctified worlds and they are also in motion and have their space assigned to them and have room enough to give them a chance to have their revolutions to act in and perhaps they travel around in the inner side of sun creating a continual [movement](#)

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which is life for without motion there is not much life
There is another thing to be considered about the sun that is the
intense heat that the bright vapor with which the sun is surrounded
with produces and how it is that every thing is not turned in to vapor
and disorganized I wil hear surgest the idea that everything
is fire proof that is there for intelgence can dwel in the midst
of devouring fire and be as comfortable as it can be any where else
for intelgence knows no pain except it be combind or united
with mortality and I presume that there is neither mor
tality nor pain there so that all these worlds that has put
off mortality and become perfectly sanctified and celestialized
they and all that pertains to them them wil be saved
and satisfied when they arrive home in the presence
of their Heavenly Father no more to undergo the pains that
pertains to mortality But it will be a great while
before anny of us wil be so happy as to get. there we wil
have to clense our selves from all sin by learning to keep
all the comandments and laws that is given to us here while
we dwel in mortality and as our plannet advances
near our final home and we put off these mortal boddies
and take immortal or resurrected boddies and the earth takes a
great change we may expect to have higher laws given to us
to keep from time to time to learn to keep til we start
become so perfect that fire wil have no effect in us [-]ale
[page torn]nd then we wil be saved in the celestial kingdom of [^]God our
Father

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I wil now proceed to investigate the plannets commencing at mercury
which is the nearest the sun and proceed outwardly and notice each one
in their turns we find that murcury is about 36 million miles from
the sun and it revolves around that luminary in little less than three months
The splendor of murcury in verry great it being the closest to the sun of any
that
has been discovered. we might think that if it is 36 million miles from the sun
that it would not be effected verry much and I suppose that the inhabitants
that pertains to that plannet feels perfectly at home and comfortable where
they
are but one of us mortals that dwel at ninty five millions of miles from the
sun if we were transported to that plannet would be separated from our mor
tal boddies in the twinkling of the eye Mercury seams to be so lumin[^]ous
that the astronomors cant tel anything about the surfice of the plannet
I wil here surgest the idea that all the plannets at their beginning
or the commencement of their organization takes place at an immense
distance from the sun and as they grow towards perfection they still advance
nearer the sun til they arive to a state of perfection and then they wil be
admitted
to move forward inside of the envelope that pertains to the sun and enjoy the
high[^]est

glory that is attainable My Theory of world making is that all the planets
is made hollow at the beginning and remains so till they go through all their
changes from childhood to manhood old age death resurrection and their final exal

tation in the presence of their great creator This idea I expect to notice
to some little extent when I notice the the dimensions of the different planets
as I
go along in my investigation. I will here speak a little more about the planet
mercury we admit that Mercury is the most luminous of any of the planets an
[page torn]
I will here remark that it is upon natural principles for the nearer any bod [page
torn]

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or substance advances towards a large fire the more light and heat it receives
Thus it seems to be the lot of mercury at this time to receive more light and
heat
than any other planet that adorns the heavens but perhaps the time will come
when mercury will move forward and take up its abode under the celestial
Curtain where it was designed for from the commencement of its creation
But a little more about mercury it seems that by the investigations of
the astronomers that mercury is not ~~so~~ so light according to its size on this
[7]

mercury
earth is that goes to prove that this earth being the largest has the space or the
biggest hollow inside of it and upon natural principles this earth would not
be so heavy according to the bulk of it I have said enough about mercury
at present and I now design to notice the planet venus which is between the
earth
and mercury it is said to be in round numbers 68 millions of miles from the
sun and is also so bright that the astronomers cant tell any thing certain
about the surface of the planet I suppose that they have never thought
about the progression of planets how that they once had a beginning at
the immense distance from the sun and is continually traveling nearer
according to their appointed times until they arrive home into
the presence of their great creator. This theory looks very plain
to me and the more I investigate the matter the more reasonable it

[8]
venus
looks For they all was undoubtedly created for a wise purpose
and that purpose was to become the residences of men and women
But they cannot produce and sustain men in their unfinished state
but they undoubtedly had a beginning and was created out of the ethereal
matter which fills the immensity of space and that by the great
wisdom of the Deity who possesses a fulness of intelligence

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Venus I presume has an even ~~smooth~~ and smooth surface
in as much as it has gone the rough and the great shaking up when it
left this orbit of mortality similar as this earth will When it
will become a new earth as John the revelator saw it and said behold
I saw a new earth and there was no more sea of course this earth had fled

awa out of his sight and traveled so near the sun that upon naturel principles the sea would be dried up this accounts for there being no sea on the plannets of venice and mercury there is no need of there being any water there for water pertains to mortality and so it is no wonder that the astronomers cannot detect seas and mountains on the surface of these two plannets that has gone before us Venice is verry near the size and heft of our earth but makes it revolution around the sun in less time because it is nearer and this is according to the law of nature I have said enough about venis at present The next in order is our earth But I dont design to say much about it now but wil investigate mor futher after I have noticed the other plannets that is further off. The next that I design to notice is mass which is a small plannet and is about 45 million miles from the sun and makes it revolution around the sun

[9]

Mars

in nearly 687 days and the real diameter of mars is about 4500 miles the rotation on its axes is a little over 24 hours the density appears to be nearly the same as that of the earth and it appars to have the outlines of seas visible on its surface in as much as there is no two plannets alike in their appearance mars appears to be different from all others also it differs in almost every respect even in size distance revolutions rotation on its ~~acti~~ axes and also in its phisical appeara [page torn] Mars is the only plannet on which there can be seas and continents bes [page torn]

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and if any person wishes to know the reason why it is the case I can tel them it is because Mars has grown to that state of maturity that is necesary for a plannet to arrive at before it can be prepared for the habitation of mortal inteligent beings to dwel on and it is now being prepared for the habitation of man and beast as wel as all vegetable matter But perhaps it wil be along time yet before it wil be prepared for the habitation of mortal man for it is two far from the sun to commence that operation yet it needs to be in a warmer climate for mortal man to dwel in therefore it must be moved nearer the sun than it is now before it can sustain mortal man and enable him to propigate his species It seams to be an unsettled question about some of the Plannets being surrounded by an atmosphere I presume that they all are enveloped in atmosphere for that is the habitation in which they dwel and it is the life of them it is the eliments which the atmosphere is composed that they have taken their embodiments from and we find that no living thing can exist with out it for the atmos^{phere} contains all the gasses that all embodiments is composed of what we call the atmosphere is a concentra tion of the ethereal matter which fills the immensity of space and is collected to gether by the the powerful attraction of sollid matter and and therefore is held around all plannets binding the them to gether and foods and gives life to all things that pertains to the the plannets And before the plannet comes to maturity it gives groth to them the same as it gives growth to timber and vegetation now but there is a time for all things to be brought about as much as time for us mortals to be conceived in our mothers woomb and grow there til we come to the time of our birth and after that continue to

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grow to manhood and where does our food come from for we are fed all the time I can tel you that it comes from the differant gasses through the mediun of the atmosphere with which the plannets are surrounded

~~As~~ As for mars it is verry easy to be understood that it has an at mosphere or there could be no [^]sn^{ow} seen on or near her poles which appears

[10]

[^]also the cause of the red apparence of mars is caused by the sun shineing on the surface of mars while the great evaperation is going on to separate the water from the land the atmosphere causes the atmosphere to look red

to melt of at times and then come again the next question is to ascertain something about the climate of mars for according to the laws of nature it would betwo cold at the immense distance from the sun that mars is seen to be for the earth appears to be the proper distance from the sun for mortality to dwel and according to the regular laws of nature it would be two cold for us to live in the orbit where mars occupies

But their is laws of nature that we cannot comprehend yet and perhaps never wil while we dwel in mortality ~~the~~ I have no idea that mars is inhabited by mortal man yet and it never wil [^]be

be while it remains at its present distance from the sun I dont think that it is freezing cold at any of the plannets for there is oxygen gas where ever there is atmosphere and that can be regulated to suit the purpo seses of the Deity for instance towards the surface of the sea the water is warm in the south seas but after you go a certain dephs it becomes nearly to a freezing temprture and remains at that temprture to the bottem no matter how deep you go and at that great depth there is living fish to be found their is other ways to keep up warmth besides depending on the rays of the sun yet it appears that it is necessary for to have the rays of the sun to shine on man and beast and vegitable matter to produce and keep up life as wel as to have the atmosphere to breath I admit that it is not necessary for the sun to shed its rays immediately on the sleds of various vegetabl [page torn]

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and animals to cause life to begin to spring into existence but a healthy groth of the animals and vegtation depends greatly on the ray of the [^]sun

I have said enough about mars and what pertains to her at present to answer my purpose at present The next in order of the plannet is what is called the asterods the number of which fifty seven I shal not under take to give a description of all their distances from the sun their size periodic times

revolutions and so forth but designate the distances of the one nearest to the sun and

the one that is the furthest from the sun with the size and so forth

The name of the plannet or asterod is flora her distance form the sun is in round number 209.131.670 miles her periodic time is 1.193 dus her size has not yet been ascertained yet the furthest asterod from the sun is named Euphrogne Mr Ferguson was ~~the discoverer he~~ of Washington

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The asterods

city D C was the arcoveror and he claims to be the first American that ever discovered a plannet her distance from the sun is 299.885.010 miles her periotic time is 2.048 day the artirods is so small that there cannot be any

distinct

tion made about them accept their size and colour in some instances there is a vast space taken up by them a distance of nearly 100 million miles from the nearest to the sun to the furthest and why that great space was set off for the multitude of those little worlds I dont pretend to know but we see that the Deity is fond of a great variety in all his works as well as we are in examining into all his works we dont verry often find two things alike in every respect you may look at it in the human species or anything ^{else}

I have wriitten enough about the asterods to answer my purpose at present I wil take a leap 195.000.000 miles further into space where I find the Plannet Jupiter which is the most magnificent plannet illuminates the sky its periodic time is 4.332 days or somewhat less that twelve of our years The real diameter of Jupiter is 88.780 miles

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by the measurement which has been made by the astronemors the polar diameter is nearly 5.000 miles less than the equatori^{al} diameter when this beautiful plannet is seen through a telescope no configurations are beheld on its surface marking the positions of continents and seas as is the case on mars but dark belts are seen stretching from side to side in the same direction they are by no means uniform in their appearance and although for months they seem unchanged they are yet liable to sudden and extensive alterations in their general appearance and situations though not in respect to their general directions in a few rare instances they have been seen broken up and ditributed over the intire disk of the plannet I now design to make a few remark about the plannet Jupiter that appars to be the largest plannet that adorns the heavens but on account of its being at such a great distance from the sun it does not appear to be much larger than venis which is the morning and evening star ~~what~~ which is not more than one eights the distance from the sun than the Plannet Jupiter this plannet althe the largest of any other has some verry peculiar featers that pertains to it one of these features is the immense speed with which it moves on its axes in les than ^{ten} hours ~~it~~ a particle on the surface of the plannet at its equator sweeps the whole extent of its circumference : 278.900 miles its velocity there fore exceeds that of a cannon ball twenty times That to look at it naturely looks like a fish story as the saying is and would be verry hard for me to believe if it had not been confirmed by so many scientific men of the earth But I am constrained to believe the testimony of so many disinterested men and in doing so I might alm [page torn] as wel say that there is nothing impossible with God our Heavenly Father [page torn]

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Their is another great peculiarity about Jupiter that is the appearance of its surface instead of it having the outlines of seas and continents visible like Mars

it is shaded with belts and streaks which at times almosts covers the disk
And that seems to be a mystery that has never been solved yet how these
belts come there and the material that they consist of But is verry plain
to me to me to understand that mystery in the first place I believe that
all the plannets as wel as all the rest of the sollids in every form had a
comment
cement and that they become enlarged gradually according to the laws of
natu^{re}
til they come to maturity or to manhood and then they cease to grow in
dimention
It appears that this earth on which we stand and live has attained to manhood
long ago and is now filing the measure or design of its creation in bearing men
and
wimin and increaseing the posterity of its great creator and ading greater
Glory to his dominions And Mars is in a prepratory state having
the outlines of seas and continents in view But Jupiter although
larger in dimentions yet it is in a more of an unfinished condition than Mars
Perhaps our great creator designed it for a verry large plannet and laid a
verry large foundation and it takes a great deal more matter to build it than
it would to build a smaller plannet These belts of vapor that surrounds
I presume is the material that has been and is being gethered to ad to the
plannets
size the plannet having such great power of attraction and passing through
space it
comes in proximity of a great deal of etherial matter which it draws towards its
boddy
but the spead of the surface of the plannet is so verry great that this gaseous
stubstance
cannot unite with the main boddy of the plannet but in course of time it wil
unite and become a part of the plannet and when it approaches to the orbit
that Mars now occupies perhaps it wil begin to show the out lines of seas
and continents Mars having been removed further towards the sun

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There is another feature of Jupiter that I wish to notice That is why it is
that Jupiter is so much lighter than the earth is according to its size
according to the investigations of the astronomers Jupiter is only one fourth
as heavy according to its size as the earth Now we wil undertake to [----]
and the cause we wil be willing to admit that it is reasonable to suplose
that all the embodiments of etherial matter is similar in heft to take it
on a large scale ^{what} I mean to take it in a large scale is to take it as a general
thing
for instance this earth is composed of etherial matter as an embodiment but
their
is some of the materials that it is composed that is heavyer than others
according
to the bulk of the matter But these portions of matter that is heavier
than others is distributed tolerable equally all over the earth in order to
keep it in balance Now we wil suppose that all the plannets is formed of
similar matter as this earth in cluding Jupiter and enquire why Jupiter
should be lighter than this earth according to its size I cannot see any
other reason than it must be hollow inside which I believe is the case
with all the plannets and that the differance in the heft of Jupiter
and the Earth is owing to the verry large hollow in the in Jupiter more than
this earth And another thing is that the Deity uses great economy in all his
works and it dont look reasonable that he would create plannets by geth
ering the material from space and commence at the center and enlarge

it like winding yarn in to a ball to get a certain size when he can create a shell similar to an egg shell and build on the outside of the shell with a great deal less material and preserve the inside for any purpose that he chooses to use it for we build houses and mansions for various purposes but we always the inside for a wise purpose in ourselves

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as for the great speed that Jupiter travels on its axes I don't know as I can tell the need of it unless it is to keep it together till the shell gets more solid so that it can support its self its self better for I believe

the belts of Jupiter is matter that has not connected with the main body yet but will in time

that it has not come to maturity yet and I presume it will not for a great while perhaps it will take millions of years before it will be prepared to become prepared for the habitation of man and beast As for the satellites or moons that attend Jupiter I shall not say much about them for the reason that I don't know anything about them only what I have

seen written by wiser men than I am my mind has not led me to investigate the matter and if any person wishes to investigate the matter I will refer you to what the astronomers has written on the subject I have now written enough about Jupiter to answer my purposes at present and will now follow space still further till I come to the orbit of Saturn

Saturn is a vast globe inferior in magnitude only to Jupiter but surpassing it in the wonderful structure of its system. for Saturn is attended by a train of no less than eight satellites and is girded by several rings of stupendous size The mean solar distance of Saturn is 909,028,000 miles According to professor Bessel the ratio of the equatorial diameter of Saturn to the polar is as 1000 to 903 the actual length deducted from the latest and most accurate observations

is 77,230 miles that of the latter computed from the preceding ratio will consequently be 738.7. The difference being 7,491 miles an extent equal to the diameter of the earth. Saturn is nearly 1000 times larger than the earth His density is but one seventh of that of our earth therefore 7 cubic feet of Saturn would on an average contain the same amount of matter as one cubic foot on our globe

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The intensity of the solar light at Saturn is 90 times less than it is at the earth Saturn appears of a pale yellowish hue and when viewed through a good telescope belts are frequently seen upon its surface but far more faint and obscure than those which are revealed upon the disk of Jupiter spots are rarely noticed on this planet. It has been ascertained that Saturn revolves upon his axes in 10 hours 16 minutes and 4 seconds the axes upon which Saturn revolves is inclined [-] to the plane of its orbit 63.10. a

point which tends to give the same diversity of seasons as that which our earth enjoys

The rings of Saturn has attracted the wonder of all the astronomers in their latter age of the world. and they are truly wonderful to behold or

imagine in our limited

understanding in the laws of nature and the great wisdom which the Deity dis

plays in governing and controlling the elements. But these are causes for all effects if we only understood those causes and effects. there is also eight satellites attending the planet of saturn of various sizes and at different distances from
In also

After having noticed some of the principal features of the different parts or departments of the planet saturn I now design to make a few remarks on the subject. In the first place I will remark that saturn is an unfinished planet similar as Jupiter only more so one proof is the lightness of the planet and it having a larger hollow on the inside of its disk than it will have when it is finished according to the size of the planets and the rings that is seen on the outside of the planet is composed of a light or diffused substance which has been gathered by the powerful attractive substance which the shell of saturn is composed of and this substance cannot unite with the main body or shell in consequence of the immense speed with which the outer part of the planet travels, but the dark or dusky rings nearest the planet is more dense

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is more dense and of course they will unite first But all that matter that is accumulating and forming those outer rings will eventually unite with the main body of the planet and perhaps a great deal more will be gathered and united with the planet before it comes to maturity perhaps it may be a larger planet than Jupiter is when it is finished I think that perhaps at some period of time Jupiter was surrounded by rings similar as saturn is now but when these ceased to be material to supply the matter that constituted the rings they by the powerful attractive substance of the shell of the planet they continued to adhere towards the planet till they broke up and formed belts around the planet which in course of time is bound to unite with the outer surface of the planet and in the course of time there will be seas and continents formed and when it gets to the proper orbit it will be inhabited by man and beasts vegetation and so forth I will now write a little more about the rings of saturn I think that these rings perhaps is caused by the reflexion of the sun and the surface of the planet coming in contact similar as a rainbow is made or by some law of nature that we do not understand I do not design to say anything more about saturn at present but will launch out into space still further. and in so doing we find at the immense distance of 1,828,070,000. miles from the sun that appears to be its mean distance we find the planet of Uranus which appears to be of a pale yellow colour uniformly bright and undiversified with spots belts or configurations of surface such as are seen on Jupiter and Mars its diameter is about 35,000 miles the difference in its equatorial and polar diameters has not yet been ascertained

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The diameter and density of Uranus is said to be about the same as that of Jupiter or one fourth of that of the earth. Rotation the absence of spots on the surface of Uranus deprives astronomers of the means of determining the period of its rotation. in fact whether it rotates at all or not on its axes is a point not yet determined

Uranus revolves about the sun in a little more than 84 of our [^]years

Uranus appears to be attended with six satellites. The satellites of Uranus differ in ~~one~~^{two} respect from all the other planetary bodies that compose the solar system. For all the planets and their satellites excepting those of Uranus revolve in their orbits from west to east, and the planes of their orbits do not deviate far from the planes of the ecliptic but the attendants of Uranus move around the planet east to west and the planes of their orbits are nearly perpendicular to the planes of the ecliptic being inclined to it at an angle of $78^{\circ}58'$. The intensity of light is 361 times less at Uranus than it is at the earth

Now I have given a partial description of this wonderful planet as I find it written by the astronomers, and I shall not make many remarks about it for it is so far away that even the best astronomers cannot comprehend much about it to any great certainty but there is some ideas about it that I wish to suggest. one is that it appears to be an unfinished planet, and how can it be when it is at such a great distance from the sun, for I don't see any particular need of it to be finished and prepared for the habitation of man and beast till it arrives

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where such beings can live and that is the orbit that our earth now occupies, and it will take it a great while to get there in consequence of it being at such an immense distance from our orbit at present it will have to await its turn and there is several planets on the road before it, it may perhaps be several millions of years before it arrives to its final home, finished perfected and sanctified and celestified with all its inhabitants that it will [-] produce that will learn to keep the laws that the great and allwise creator will see fit to give to them. This is a new Theory of the creation as destiny of worlds and people and I don't expect that many people will except of it at present. But these Ideas has been presented to my mind and they look reasonable to me and if they are true they will stand forever because truth is self-existent it is a principle that cannot be annihilated. I don't say that I am perfect in all my suggestions But as a general thing I believe that what I have set forth and suggested is on correct principles of course time will decide all things But it will take more time than we have allotted to us while we dwell in mortality to decide on many things that I have written and expect to write. As for the size distance and revolutions periodic time density and so forth I presume that they are very near correct if they are not I shall not undertake to correct them. As for the satellites they appear to be a perfect mystery the way they act but I believe that they are governed by some law of nature that we cannot detect at the immense distance [^]from us

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the next in order and the last [-] and the most distant planet that has ever been discovered is Neptune after the discovery of the planet Uranus it was supposed by some astronomers that there was yet another planet existing and after much deep reflection and deep studies the celebrated Lavoisier [-] of France

located the place for it and ~~directed direct rote to where to pint his telescope to~~ look for it and rote to doctor Galle of Berlin, telling him when to look in the heavens for the unnown plannet and of what size it would appear. Dr Galle the same evening he received the letter pointed his instrument to that region in the heavens where he had been directed to gaze and there he immediately a star of the magnitude mentioned by Le Verior and which proved to be the Plannt saught for The name of the plannet was called Neptune its diameter is said to be 31.000 miles The sun contains about 18.000 times more matter than Neptune. The density of the Plannet is said to be about the same as that of saturn or about 1/2 of that of the earth Like that of other plannets it is elipticle yet but moderately so, and its plane is inclined to that of the eliptic $1^{\circ}47'$. The mean solar distance is 2.862.457.000 miles, and the diferance between, its greatest and least distance from the sun is 49.940.000 miles an extent considerable less than one third of the like variation of Urannus Neptune revolves about the sun in about 164 1/2 years. As this Plannet is about [-]10 times further from the sun than the earth is the intensity of the solar light at neptune is 900 times that it is at the earth Some astronemers suppose that Neptune is surrounded with a ring but it has been ascertained for a certainty, there has been one satalite or moon detected for a certainty and it is supposed that there is others the one that has been discovered, the moon of neptune is about the same

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distance from Neptune as our moon is from the earth
Now I wish to make a few remarks about the Plannets, it is said that there is no end to space, and that I am willing to admit But space is devided in to different departments, and I dont know as there is any space but belongs to some of the many departments of space For instance, we belong to the department that pertains to this earth, and this earth belongs to this solarsystem that pertains of the sun that shines upon all the plannets that revolves arou[^]nd it and so on through the immensity of space. But we may extend our immaginations concerning the end of space til we are lost and that is all the good it wil do for us poor short sited mortals I have given a passing notice of all the principlannets that revolve around our sun, as for neptune I consider it to be one of the greatest feats that has been acheived by the astronemers to Just immagine the immense distance that can be penetrated by the aid of the telescope It appears that neptune is 31.000 miles [-] in diameter and 2.862.557.000 distant miles from the sun. And perhaps if we could penetrate into space stil further for many billions of miles we would be able to see stil more pannets being formed and growing towards perfection or manhood, for I believe that all the plannets once existed in the immensity of space in the etherial or caotic matter or in other words in the different gasses which has allways existed in the immensity of space in a defused substance and has been concentrated into embodiments by the wisdom of the Deity working according to the laws of nature to suit his Eternal purposes

[page 1]

Genealogy

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Page 5th

Marrid to John Wells on Ramseys
Creek in the State of Missouri they lived sev [page torn]
years in that State and then remove to the Stat [page torn]
of Illinois liveg first in Callhoun County then
in Pike then Adams then removed to Jodavis
County where he was liveing in the year 1845
the his Sons was Joshua Andrew and Voln[page torn]
the later Died when he was young T the n [page torn]
of the Daughters not recollected
James Bean was the name of my Mothers
oldest Son he Married a girl by the name
of Elizabeth Lewis while he was yet liveing in
the State of Missouri afterwards to the State
of Illinois Adams County where he remained
until 1842 about that time he and his family
united with the of Jesus Christ of Laterday
Saints in the Spring of 1845 he removed to
Nauvo in the Spring of 1846 he removed t [page torn]
West The names of his Sons was William [page torn]
George and James William Died while he w [page torn]
young the names of the Daughters was Nanc [page torn]
Sarah ann and Elizabeth
Garrett was the Second Son he Married Nancy
Crow in Adams County where he Now Lives
This being the Spring of 1846 the names
of the children not recollected
William Bean Married Nancy Hillery
of the State of Kentucky in adams County
the Names of the Children not recollected
He also removed to the Iowa Territory in
the year 1843 where he Now Lives
Polly Bean was Married to a man by the
name of David Crow in the State of
Missouri lived there a number of years
and then removed to the State of Illinois

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Page 6th

The names of the children not recollected
Polly Died in the year 1843.
In the year 1812 I was Born in Pike Couny
In the Sate of Missouri on the 10 th day of
April about that time my father and Mother
And the rest of the family was compelled
to remeove to Lyncoln County to the fort
[page torn] y then removed to St Charles County where
[page torn] y Father had obtained a grant from the
Spanish goverment of Six hundred and forty
Acres of Land there he remained until
[-] was Four years old then we removed to
the South Side of the Missouri River and
Lived there one year and then removed to
Pike County on Ramseys Creek where we
Lived the year 1829 We then removed to
the State of Illinois Adams County
[page torn] ar Quincy remained there one year an [page torn]

then Purchased a ttract of Land 7 miles
above Quincy where we Settled and
Made additional improvements And
there we Lived til the Spring of 1831 when
I purchased a Tax title on a quarter section of
Land lay ing about four miles Northeast of
my fathers farm comnenced improveing
it And on the 7th of August I Married
Mis Elizabeth Campbell During this
period of time my mother had Five Sons
and 3 Daughters the Names of the Sons is
Andrew Jesse Jonathan Milton and Eli
The names of the Daughters is Elizabeth Anna
And Armilda I shal now proceed
to a Short history of my Brothers and Sisters
who are younger than my Self
Andrew was next oldest to myself

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Page 7th

He Married a lady by the name of Frankey
Washburn and now lives on My Fathers old farm
wh I helped to improve to improved before I was
Married in ~~ada~~ Adams County His wife has 3 or 4
Children girls and buoys Jesse was the next
Oldest He Died in about his 19th year
Jonathan was the next oldest Son He Married
a Lady by the name of Elizabeth Alexander and
removed to the State of Missouri to the wards the
head of the Fabbies river had one or two Children
the last account Milton was the next oldest son
He Married a Lady by the name of Henderson from the
Sate of Kentucky her Crisen name not recollected
She has buried one Child and has one liveing by the name
of William Eli is the Youngest and remai [-]s
Single the last account My Sister Elizabeth
was the third Child after myself She was [-]
Married to a man by the name of Marcus Stow
in her fifteenth year and has lived in Adams
County ever Since her oldest Sons name is Milton
her oldest Daughters Name is Marietta She has
several other Children their names not recollected
Anna was the 6th Child after myself She
was Married to Harrison Washburn brother
to Andrews wife She has three Children their
Names not recollected they live in Adams
County at present Armilda is the youngest
Daughter She was Married to a man by the
name of Jacob Miller She has three Children
their names not recollected they lived in Adams
County til the Spring of 1846 then removed
to Iowa Territory towards the head of Skunk
River I shall now proceed to give an
account of my transactions from the time
that I Married my wife til now

Personal History

Page 8th

About a year previous to the time that I Married my wife I set my mind more attentiv to search after knowledge haveing received Education So that I was able to Read Write and Cipher Some in the arith metic after reading the Old and new testament and other books I become a believer in the the existance of a Supreme being who Created [-] and upholds the Universe hence I concluded that it was nomore than reason able that he Should have the privaledde of governing the Same and when I come to consid er the greatness of Such a being I formed an idea that his place of abode was far Superior to to an earthly habitation thefore I thought it reasonable that he Should have the privaledge of forming a code of Laws with the penalties annex deliver them to Man whom [-] he had formed after his own image and likeness and made him master of all his Creatures besides Hence I was taught to believe that the Bible and new testament Contained the revealed laws from God to man With their penalty annex I therefore as one of gods Creatures thought it my duty to become obedi [-]ent to the Laws of God my Heavenly father But man had Sought out many inventions in religeon and forms of worship as well as other things For Some truly said Lo there while others said Lo there Some Said this is the way while Some Said No for this is the way follow us For my part I did not know which of the Churches the Lord was Best pleased with but I was inclined to think that it mad no diferance [-] what the name of the Church was called so that a person lived humbl feared

Pg 9th

feared God and worked Righteousness my father and Mother having belonged to the Methodist Church from before I was bornd and of a natural consiquence they [-] taught their Children to follow their footsteps I there fore united with the Methodist Episcopal Church lived in that Church until I was Marrie I married Elizabeth Campbell on the 27th of August in the year 1831 I was then improve ing my Land which I had purchased in the Spring of the Same year But inabout a week after we were Married She was taken Sick with the fever and lay verry low for about Six weeks She then gained her Strength So that we

removed to my land then I commenced Steady
on my land Clearing of Skirts of timber and
hazle roug and fencing in land and breaking up
Land and working out for the Neighbours to
oftain Such things as we needed for to keep hous
wih The next Summer my wife united herself
with the Same Church to which I belonged
on the 31st day of Aagust in the year of our
Lord 1832 my wife was delivered of a Daugh
ter we Called her name Sarah ann
we Lived to gether enjoying the Comforts of life
as much so as any persons Could under the
Same Circumstances labauring daily with
our hands diligently for a liveing endeavorin
to procure the comforts and conveniences of life
until the 8th of July 1834 when She gave
Birth to a son we called his name
George Washington Our affections
Stil become united Stronger My Father
Died Some time in July 1833 he Died of the
Collery he Sent for me the Morning before

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Page 10th

His Death he told me that he was about to
leave this world of trouble and rejoiced that
he had lived an honerable and upright life
and that he Should depart in peace and
exhorted me to live in like manner and to teach
my brothers and Sisters to do so likewise
He also Charged me to take Charge of his
business and Settle it up honourable
I therefore proceeded according to the Law of the Land and
Administered on the estate of personal ~~to~~ Estate
which was worth Something like two thousand
Dollars besides the real estate which was devided
leaving from forty to Sixty acres apiece
In as much as there considerabl of debts to collect
and some of them of old standing and in bad hands
I was Some two or three year before I got the business
accomplished I Shal now proceed with an account
of my own history After the birth of our Second
Child we Still lived in peace and prosperity having
by our united exertions by our industry and eonomy
procured a good farm and Stock of all kinds that
we needed to make us comfortable in this way we lived
until the 25th of October 1836 my wife gave
Birth to the third Child who was a Girl we
named her Polly ann. we still continued
to live in peace union and prosperity intil the
spring of 1839 this was thee time the Church of
Jesus Christ of later day Saints was driven
from the State of Missourie And inasmuch
as the greater part of them Crossed the Mississisippi River
at Quincy they settled in Adams County in
Great numbers renting and Leaseing all the Land
that Could be obtained so as to procure a living
I had then about Eight ~~+~~ acres in cultivation

But had rented and Sewed wheat in a great part of it

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Page 11th

So that I did not expect to Spare any more
But as I was going to Fairfield to a two days meetine
I found Some of those unfortunat individuals Camped
out in the Snow Storm and I was filld with Compassion
to wards them and I told them if they would come home
with me that I would receive them into my house until
that the weather become Settled they told me they was
much obliged to me for my kind offer But they was
in Search of land to rent and if they stopeed [-] many days
they would be out of mony But they Said if I could tell
them where they could find some Land to rent they
would like [^]To Stop I told them I told them that I did not
know of any in the neighbourhood but I had about eight
acres that I intended to Sow in oats But if they Could
not do no better I did not know but I would rent
that they told me that they knew of no chance
any whereelse and if I would let them have it they
would pay any rent that I should ask So
I concluded to let them have it to tend but inas
much as it was contrary to my principle to take
the advantage of the necessity of any person I did not
more than what was Customary which was one third
So one of them come home with me his name was
Alexander Williames he had a large family I furnes
hed him a house to live in and eight acres of grou [- -]
to tend and geve Him Considerable of work to do for
which I paid him a good price
Alexander Williams was an Elder in the Church
and was a verry sociable man and conversed verry
freely upon the principles of Salvation and inasmuch
as I had been taught to believe the Bible both by me
Parents and Priests That is to believe that it was the
only resource to go to to learn the way in [^]which I could obtain
a knowledge of the way in which I should walk in order
to obtain Eternal Salvation

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Page 12th

And when I come to take a close examination
of of the Scriptures I found that the Later Day
Saints was the only people that believed and
practised them in full and also the only people who
professed to enjoy the gifts graces and blessings of
the Same Therefore I Made up my mind that if the
gifts and Blessing of the gosple did actually exist in the
Church as was promised in the New testament that
it Should follow the believer that I should throw
away all My former tradition and unite with with
the people that received the greatest Blessing from God
Accordingly I humbled my Self before the Lord
and asked him that if ~~the~~ it was his will that I Should

unite with the Church of Laterday day Saints That he would it manifest Some way or other as he saw proper there was one thing which I desired to witness above any other that was the healing of the Sick by the laying on of the hands of the Elders About this time my wife was taken verry sick with a Strange Disease in which I could find no remedy in the way of medicine And it came to pass that on ene evening that Alexander Williams was present when the time come that we Should have Prayer I asked him if he would not lead in Prayer he Said he had no objections So we united in Prayer after we arose Alexander Williams remarked that it was manifested to him that if Mrs Edwards would Covenant to obey the gosple that it was her privilege to be healed by the laying on of the hands of the Elders But nothing more was Said at that time She Still grew worse until the next evening when She Complained of the [- -] pains which was in her head and boddy as being moresevere than She was able to bear much longer I then told her that I thought She wold do well to take up with the offer that was made her the night befor [page torn]

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Page 13th

She verry readly agreed to and and we entered into a covenant before the Lord that if She was healed by the Laying on of the hands of the Elders that we would obey the ordinance of the gosple that is babtism by immertion for the remission of Sins and laying on of the hands for the recption of the holy ghost Therefore I went immediately to See Alexander ~~will~~ Williams and told him that I desired him to come and administer to my wife that She migh be healed of her Sickness he come home with me and we kneeled down and Prayed and then we arose and he layed his hands upon her head and rebuked the disease in the name of Jesus Christ Her pains immediately left her and She was filled with the Spirit of God She reJoiiced and acknowledged that She had [^]been healed from her pains by the power of God ^{by}through the instrumentality of the Laying on of hands and faith and Prayer And as Soon She recovered Strength enough to walk to the Creek which was about one mild we went to the water and was Babtised by immertion for the remission of and came forth out of the water and was confirmed a member [-] of the Church of Jesus Christ of Laterday Saints we rejoiced in the happy Change which we had experienced and on the 21st of July 1839 my wife gave birth to an other Daughter and we called her name Louisa Jane - and on the 6th of October we attended a conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints held at Nauvoo where Joseph Smith Presided and the Church was organized again after having been broken up and dspered in the State of Missouie I was then Ordained an Elder in the Church of Jesus Christ

we returned home and I began to make arrangements
to remove to Nauvoo and Sold a part of my farm

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Page 14th

And Sold a part of my farm for building in Nauvoo
about this time Brother Alexander Williams insisted
that I should accompany him in a mission to the South
accordingly I consented to do so and we took our Journey
late in the fall and traveled Southward through the
state of Illinois as far as golconda and then we crossed the
Ohio River in to the State of Kentucky traveled through
a part of that State Preaching the Gosple as we passed
through both States [-] where we could obtain opportunity
until we came to the State of Tennessee where we Spent the
winter Preaching the Gosple and Babtising until about
the first of March when I returned home he haveing
traveled on still into the middle of the State to see some of his
relations and to preach to them

After I returned home I found my family enjoying
tolerable health I then in a short time went to
Nauvoo and contracted for a lot on the bank of the Missisi [-]
River and began to improve it by getting out timb [-]
and fencing it an the 5th of April when I arrived there
with my family on the 6th day conferance commenced
and lasted 2 or three days in which time we received a great
deal of good instruction I soon began to make
preperations for building by diging a sellar and Collecting
materials for building myself a House And So I fenced
my garden and planted it And then I commenced
diging and wawling my Seller which was 52 feet long
and 18 feet wide I also put me up a fraim
building which was designed for a stable 20 feet
in length and 17 in wide as soon as this building
was covered I moved my family into it until
I could get my house up for Horses was verry
scarce in Nauvoo at that time and could not be
Hired at any price And so we live all that
summer without a house and Suffered consid
erable with the chills and fever

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Page 15th

I also was disappointed in obtaining lumber
and other building materials So that I failed to
get the walls up that summer But when
winter come I succeeded in obtaining an old log
cabin to live in through the winter
During the winter there was an old man by the name
of Mikesel who persuaded me to go in partnership
with him in building a Steam mill I yet had
not sold my farm in Adams County yet
But we had an opportunity of obtaining an engine
on Credit So we went to work with all our mights
and had the mill runing sometime in June

both grinding and sawing but we had went in
debt several hundned dollars for up I ha given my
notes Soon after we had started the mill to runnig
he proposed to buy my interest in the mill
I told him that if he would pay up the
debts which I had contracted for materials and
refund me the money which I had furnished
and pay me for my labour which I had Spent
towards the mill that he should have my interest
in it He verry readily aggreed to do so
I therefore gave him possession of it trusting
to his honor in the matter But I learned a
lesson by so doing which I shal not forget
verry soon he put me off from time
to time with fair promises until it was
two late to recover any thing by law then
I could do no better than to [-]loose my money
and labour and pay the debts and let him
keep the Mill I was not able to get lumber
to finish my house So I lost several hundre^d
dollars I succeeded in selling my farm
during the Summer for twelve hundred
dollars in money and grocerryes

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Page 16th

So I poceded to finish of my house and settle
apart of the Mill debts the balance the remainder
of the Debts I paid after wards by labouring for
means to [-] with [-] the size of my [-] House
was fifty two feet long and eighteen feet in wedth
with a good sellar under the whole size of with a
living Spring in it and a dreaan from there to the
river also too good fire places in it also two storys
above the Sellar containing three rooms each four
of these rooms was supplied with ^4 fire places and 2
Stove rooms the House was scituated on
the northwest corner of what is called the Garland
pur chase on the bank of the River
I finished my house in the summer of 184 [-]
And on the 22end of August 1842 My
Wife gie birth to a son to whomb we gave the
name of Thomas Andrew it being the name of
both of our fathers About this time their
was a call made for a great many Elders
to go and labour in the vineyard
I for one was Called upon personally to take
a mission ↻ by the authoritys of the Church
to which I readily Consented
And to wards the last of September after
having made arrangements for my wife to
take a visit with the Children to our connection
which live in adams County about forty
miles distant from Nauvoo Where we then live^d
I set off on my mission to wards Galena in
Company with a young man by the name
of William Green wood we traveled on foo [-]

a north course preaching every opportunity
until we came to where my Brotherinlaw lived
His Name was John Wells he had married
[-] my oldest sister whose name was Sally

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Page 17th

We had not seen each other for several
years and were verry glad to see me
Although they were verry much Preju
diced at what they supposed [--] my religeon
for we were every where mis represented
in every Shape and form that men or devils
could think of or invent
But however they had so much confidence
in the honesty of my heart they Could not thin [page torn]
that I Culd not be somuch deceived as some
had reported that the Mormons were
And out of respect to me they made an
appointment for me to preach at their house
accordindly the neighbours and I delivered a
lecture on the first principles of the gosple to a
respectable congregation which could find no objectio [page torn]
we soon received invitations to preach at different
places so we continued to preach every opportunity
for a considerable time without much oppositi [page torn]
many people appeared to be verry much interested
with the doctrine which we preached for it being
the doctrine of the bible and new testament which
they professed to believe they could find no fault
However their was one methodist Priest under
took to oppose us at Elizabehtown but he was
Soon put to Shame It naw began to get cold
wether and I had not received any letter from
my wife as I expected and I became verry
uneasy about my family something seamed to
whisper me that all was not right at holme
accordingly I made preparations to come home
by this time my brotherinlaw and sister had becom [page torn]
quite interested in the doctrine of the later day saint
and disliked to see me leave I told them that I
new that all was not right at home and I must
hurry home

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Page the 18th

Accordingly I after making them a present of a
Book of Mormon I bid them farwel and started holm
I went to savanna and took a steamboat to return
home payed my passage for Nauvoo but when we came
to the head of the upper rapeds there was a Snow Storm
Sat in so severe that we was under the necessity
of laying by But I could not wait for the Storm
to cease So I left the boat and traveled on foot
through the storm and snow all the day and arrived at

Devenport that evening in the morning the Storm
had ceased and the Ice was running verry thick So
I proceeded on by land and when I arrived at Nauvoo
My wife had not returned from her visit to Adams
County where her connection lived and Brother
Richason the man which was liveing in my house
had not heard a word from from her Since She
had left there in the fall this struck me with
surprise for I knew that She intended to have been
home long before that time So I immediately
Started to adams county on foot through the snow
Came as I was to learn what was the matter and
when I arrived at the place where she was I found
Her laying at the point of death in which condition
She had been laying for Several weeks She was
insensible of the time that I returned for several days
I removed to my mothers and humbled myself
before the Lord in mighty Prayer and layed my
hands on her head and in the name of Jesus
I rebuked the power of the destroyer and she began
to amend from that verry hour But she was
so much reduced that it took great care and atten
tion before She recovered So that She could be
removed home But after about three weeks
She was able to ride home in a sled so I
hired John Riddle to bring us home in one day

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Page the 19th

When we returned home we found things in
an unfavorable condition Brother Richason
the man in whoes care I left my house and garden
had been Sick and had let my garden get destroyed
and it was verry cold and we had no wood to burn
my wife was yet so feeble that I could not leave
her long at a time But I made out to get up
Considerable of wood [-] And in about three weeks
I was taken verry Sick myself this was about
the first January My wife as still verry feeble
Bt could go from the bed to the fire by helping hers [- -]
herself with a chair I lost my reason and was
insensible th the greatest part of the tim the
was verry cold and we had a verry hard time
the babe had to be fed by hand it having been
weaned in the time of her sickness
At length after about three or four weeks
severe fever I had a verry copeous dscharge of
blood through my bowels and after that immediat
ly I recovered my reasons and began to amend
my fever become intermittent and I was more Comf
table at times but did not recover until Spring
So that I could do ^not any labour at length we all recovered
and rejoiced in the god that Saved us from death and
sustained us through our sickness
In the spring I went to work labouring for a livein
and the next fall I engaged in making Spinning whe
ls I took a man in to work with me by the name of Luc [- -] tis
Newel we worked to gether all winter and done tolerable

wel in the Spring he left the Shop and went to work at other business But I continued working at that business til the fall the church agreed to leave the State it then became necessary for me to go to work making waggons which I attended to almost day as all that winter in order to be ready to remove next Spring with the Church

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Page the 20th

But I must go back and relate many things which happened from the time we recovered from our sickness til we left Nauvoo after my wife had recovered from her sickness which she had through the winter She was taken with a severe pain in the stomach which brought her to the point of death and when she was about to breath her last and I had used all the faith and means which I was in possession of I sent for Doctor young was a physian and also an Elder in the church he took his bottle of consecrated Oil come in haste to See my wife and found her speechless he anno inted with oil and layed his hands on her head and in the name of Jesus and by the authoity of the Priest hood he rebuked the disease She immediately recovered her Speech and arose from her bed of Sickness and her disease returned nomore But in about three or four weeks afterword she was attacted with the Liver complaint which was rebuked by the laying on of hands but returned frequently at last we overcome that disease But about that time our Babe whoes name was Thomas Andrew was taken with a lingering disease which terminated in his Death in the later part of July which was the first Death that ever occured in my family Nothing of particular interest occurred in my family from that time the next Summer But I worked at manufacturing Spinning wheels for a liveing until next summer til Joseph and Hyrum Smith was Murdered in Jail at Carthage which caused Great Sorrow in the Church And on the 14 th of Sep tember my wife gave birth to a Daughter which we called Elizabeth after herself the Child Grew finally and done wel until its mother was taken with a severe pain in her head this was third of April 1845 and on the 6th of April 1845 She Died Leaving five metherless Children and a broken hearted [- -] band to mourn her loss with deep sorrow

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Page the 21st

That event placed me in meloncholly condition that any person could immagine I felt so loansome and so afflicted in mind that I knew not what to do therefore I went to Brother Heber C Kimble for council on the subject and told him my condition [-] And told him that

Sister Bennet wife of Thomas Bennet desired to take the babe and raise it until it become a woman He told me that He would advise me to let Sister Bennet take the child on certain conditions which I did He also advised me to get me another Wife as soon as opportunity would permit and not to mourn as those who had no hope And inasmuch as I could not well keep house without some person to assist in taking care of the children I looked around until I found a young Woman by the name of Sarah Cottam Gibbs her step Fathers name was Henry Moo [-] and her Mother had formerly lived in one room of my house and she had become very intimately acquainted with me my Wife and family She readily consented to become my companion through Life accordingly we were joined in Matrimony on the 27th of April 1845 She was born in upper Canada March the 26th 1823 her father died Shortly after she was born her Mothers Maiden name was Cornelia Boyce we lived together till the Temple of the Lord was finished in the winter of 1846 when we received our induements together And on the 22 of February 1846 I was compelled to part with another of my family Louisa Jane Died after a short sickness with a pain in [- -] Head similar to that of her mothers sickness this was a winter long to be remembered on account of Saints being driven by Mobs from their homes

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Page the 22d

The Saints was generally employed through the winter in preparing waggons and other things necessary for moving to the west in the Spring But on account of the small quantity of property there was a great many that could not fit themselves out with waggons and teams so that they could remove to the west And I was among those who was obliged to tarry on account of not selling my property however about the first of June I rented my House and crossed the river in search of Labour I pitched my tent near Montrose in Iowa And when my family became very unwell I met with a chance of being removed to Iowaville about Sixty miles up the Desmoine River where I found one of my uncles by the name of Daniel Mchue his wife was a Sister to my mother and as good hearted woman as I ever become acquainted with there I obtained a good Situation for the winter [- -] and found plenty of labour to do and have good pay for it During all this time my wife had many very severe fits of sickness which she scarcely survived But through the Mercies and blessings of God her life was spared until the 18 of October 1846 when she gave birth to a son to whom we gave the name of Esaias She scarcely

Survived her sickness at that time Bit by close attention I by the help of the L restored her to tolerable health again As Soon as she recover [-] from her Sickness She became verry anxious to go and visit her Mother which lived at Montrose and I being willing to gratify her although I did not think it wisdom for her to undertake Such a Journey at that time yet I prepared a waggon in as good and comfortable a manner as I could and we set out on our Journey and reached her mothers house on the third day and found her mother verry sick

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Page the 23d

We stayed there a short time and then returned home on our way home it rained and my wife took Cold and became verry Sick so that she was Scarcely able to ride in the waggon but I stoped the team and layed my hands on her head and in the name of Jesus and by the authority of the Priesthood I rebuked the pain so that we traveled on our way home After we arrived at home nothing remarkable took place until In March except my wife had Several Severe Spells of Sickness and about the first of march she become verry uneasy about her mother She had received no letter as she expected and she became fearful that her mother was dead and she could not although she was verry feeble But nothing would do [- - -] She ✕ must go and See her mother again I told her that I feared she was not able to endure the Journey But she insisted that she must go So I hired Mr Bently to take his waggon and horses and take us on our Journey we arrived at Montrose on the second evening and found her mother and all of the family enjoying good health her mother had given birth to a daughte about seven or eight weeks previous But my wife was , So much fateagued with the Journey th [page torn] She was not able to return home for several days But at length we returned home She was verry much fateagued And began to declin in more than common She became verry subj to vomit all her food up so that She be almost a skeletan I called Dr Smith of Iowaville to see her and he told that it was impossibl for her to recover I doubted what he told me fo [page torn] a while and kept it hid from her for some tim [page torn]

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Page the 24th

But at length I thought it would be right to tel her what the Doctor told me concerning her sickness But she did not seem to

mind it much she Said she desired verry much
to live and raise her babe but if She could
not live she told me how She wanted to be
buried and also the place I told her is she [- - -]
I told her that if She died Should have her re
quest granted But that I was willing to
do all that layed in my power to preserve her
life and restore her to health if possible
So I employed her aunt Nancy Gilbert
to assist me in nursing her ang we succeeded
in keeping her alive til the 29th of April
1847 When after much severe pain She depar
ted this life leaveing ther husband and all
the family to mourn their loss
And so I had her buried according to her reque [-]
in the graveyard near Iowaville by the side
of Mother Smith wife of Asahel Smith
uncle to our Prophit Not long after that
I let Pollyann my second Daughter go and
live with sister gilbert The babe appeared
to have an uncommon Desire to suck the
breast so I employed Sister Parish wife
of Brother William Parish to take the babe
and gave it suck and take Care of it
I also removed into a house nearby in order to have
the children to assist in taking care of it
the babe appeared to do well til towards the
last of June I received a letter from Nauvoo
stating that my property was sold in Nauvoo
and there was one hundred and seventy five
dollars ready for me so I immediately started
Nauvoo on the first evening I met with
[- - -] an accident being throwed from a wagon

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Page the 25th

And my wright rist severely sprained but
I continued my Journey to Nauvoo where I found my
money ready for me I went from there to Quincy
in Adams County where I purchased such things
as I needed and returned home and found all wel
But my rist was so lame that I could not labour
with it to any advantage. But My babe was
soon taken sick with what was called the summ [-]
Complaint and died July the 23[- -] 1847 and was
Burid by his Mother near Iowaville.
My family was now reduced to my two oldest
Children and myself. So I began to prepare to
remove to the Council Bluffs on the Missourie
River where the boddy of the Saints had stoped to wint [-]
when on their way to the Valley of the great Salt Lake
So we started some time in August with one waggon
one yoke of cows and one yoke of oxen in this conditi
on we left the United States to Seek a home in the
wilderness. we soon fel in with company and
had quite a pleasant Journy for about two hundred
miles when early one morning we started in a
short distance when going up a hill My Daughter

Sarahann in attempting to Jump from the wagon fell and the fore wheel ran over her head and arm Which broke her arm and injured her head some But we stoped the waggons and and annointed her wounds in the name of the Lord and then we drove on without any difficulty til we reached the settlement of the Saints on the Putawatomie lands near the missourie River where I stoped and immediately began to make preparations for winter by cuting hay building a house and so forth I soon had this accomplished my location was on what was called little merke toe creek about 12 miles from the Indian mill

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Page 26th

about this time I began to think it was about time for me to seek me another companion I became acquainted with a young women by the name of Belinda Miles which was formaly from the State of Ohio and Laterly from Adams County Illinois and at that time lived at Council point on the Missourie River And we was united in Matrimony by Elder Hide on the 24th of Oct 1847

So it was I again found a companion who delited to make me comfortable

~~During the winter I was making all~~
~~---] that I could~~

Not long after that time my oldest Daughter Sary ann was Married to Thom as Algar which was the son of Samuel Algar During that winter I was working at waggins and other mechanical labour in order to obtain means to remove to the great Salt Lake Valley in the next Spring if possible But every exertion failed one of my oxen died which left me with only one ox and two cows so that the way appeard to be shut up and I planted a garden and also some corn potatoes pumpkins &c But about the 1st of June I had the good luck to obtain good yoke of oxen from Brother William Bennet for a waggon which I let him have in the State of Iowa I then bought me an other old yoke of oxen for which I paid my od ax and the wood work of a wagon I now had two yoke of oxen and one yoke of Cows and a good waggon which I had made So I considered my self quite rich I then sold my garden and crop and obtained six or seven hundred weight of bread stuff- mostly corn meal and buck wheat flour with clothing

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Page 27th

enough to do us for that Season But not any tea or Coffee and no sole leather So about the first of June we left

little musketoe creek in Putawatomie county State of Iowa for the Great Salt Lake Valley in the rocky Mountains more than one thousand Miles west of the Missouri River And so we crossed the river in order to unite with a company at winter quarters which expected to start in a Short time under the directions of Amasa Lyman Consisting of one hundred familys and one hundred and sixty waggons and there we was detained til about the 1st of July when a part of the Company left and removed to the Elkhorn River about 30 miles distant Crossed the river and waited for the rest of the Company til they arrived and the 6th of July we all Started on our Journey together and traveled pretty much to gether for over three hundred miles and then it was thought best to separate and travel in Smaller Companies So we devided into three Companies the 1st Consisted of 4 tens under the direction of Barnabas Adams the 2d Consisting of 3 tens under the direction of Phineas Richards Jun the 3d under the direction of Aandrew Cunningham that Consisting of 3 tens also these 3 tens was under the direction of Moses Martin Ezra Clark and Wilcocks it fel to my lot to travel in the ten that was under the direction of Moses Martin And so we Continued Our Journey til we arrived at Sweet water a river that was a little over 6 hundred miles from where we left the Missouri river the feed had been verry Scarce for the distance of about 150 miles my team had become verry feeble and it became necessary for me to take extry care of it And So I obtained Leave of Capt Cuningham to drive on ahead of the Company in order that I might be enabled to take the better care of my team accordingly I left the main Company in company with Brothers

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Page 28th

Abraham Huntsucker and Randolph Alexander and we traveled on taking extry care of our teams Stoped and giving rest to our teams occationly and killing Buffalo and antelope when we needed them til we came to a place called little sandy about two hundred Miles from the great Salt Lake we there rested on the Sabbath day and Sister Hintsucker Gave Birth to a fine Son. Next morning we started on our Journer and traveled on our Journey three days and arrived at Green river there one of my cows gave out so that she could not work in the team But I continued on my Journey and on the fifth day of October we arrived in the Valley of the Great Salt Lake Where we found many of our Breathren and friends this was a time of rejoicing which wil never be forgotten our friends that we left behind soon arrived in Safety which aded to our comfort and satisfaction We had a verry pleasant Journey taking every thing in consideration. I immediately went to work and built me a log house and commenced to prepare for the winter and on the

14th of November my wife Belinda Gave
Birth to a fine Daughter and Called her Name
Olive I spent the winter in working in the
Shop at mechanical work such as spinning
wheels Chairs and Soforth in the next Spring
I removed to the Citty Where I built me a shop
and a water power turning Lathe I also farmed
Some and put me up the body of a good doby
House I also earned Considerable at me chanic [- -]
labour during the Summer and fall during this
summer and fall of 1849 therr was a great flow of emigra
tion from the USA to the gold mines in California

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Page 29th

Which was a Source of considerable
benefit to the Saints for they Sold us
Many goods and groceryes and other
and other articles that we needed at a
verry reasonable rate And on the 24th
of July we held the greatest celebration
that I ever witnessed it was held in honor
to the birth day of our arrival to the GSL
Valley It was truly a time of rejoicing
among the Saints of God to think that
they had got to a land of liberty and
freedom where they Could make their own
Laws and worship God as they pleased
and was not in danger of being molested
by mobs Nothing remarkable happened
during the winter but about the month
of February I went to look at Valley
which lays on the South Side of the
Great Salt Lake for the purpose of
looking out a place for a settlement
and I was wel pleased with that location
for a settlement I therefore Chose me a
farm and a location for a mill
In the month of May 1850 I went in Company
with my Son George W to that valley
and put in some corn potatoes and other
vegitable but my family remained in the City
I returned home and left my Son to take of the
Crop and on the 2d of June 1850 my wife
Gave birth to another Daughter and called her
name Emmy Jane in theis year the
mining emigration Continued to increase
and I made Considerable tradind with them
in the fore part of october I removed witt my
family to the valley of Tooele where my farm was

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Page 30th

I had then hired my youngest brother
Eli who had left the states for the mines

and When he had come this far he con-
cluded to Stop with me for the winter
and we went to work getting on
timber for a mill and Sowing wheat
and soforth And about the middle of the
winter I succeeded in starting a lathe
by the water power that I designed for
My mill and so the remainder of the
winter I employed myself in making
Chairs bedsteds and soforth But during
the winter and Spring I lost two horses
and three oxen which weakened my team
and means so that I did not get my mill
Stone in the Spring my brother was
afflicted with lameness during the winter
and spring in his hip so that he was not
able to do much labour
I found the inhabitants of Tooele to be
a firstrate to be a first rate set of people
generally enjoying a good degree of the Spi [- - -]
of the Lord enjoying their selves firstrate
in meeting to gether to worship the Lord
also in holding Licems and debates
we also had a common school and a writi [-]
School also occasion parties for recrea-
tion during the later part of this winter I recei-
ved the gift of a poet by the Spirit of the
Lord which cause great joy to spring up in m [page torn]
heart some of the verses I wil put on record

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Page 31st
the following lines are the first that
I ever composed in poetry
Since I have become a poet
I thought twas right to let others know it
For if I have received a gift
The truth from error for to sift
That great talent Ile never hide
So long as it in me doth abide
I wilnot hide it in the ground
So long as among the Saints Im found
But through the goodness of the Lord
Til I secure a great reward
Il strive to walk in wisdoms way
And be careful what I do or say
Til on the Earth my work is done
And in this life my race is run
But [-] while in mortality Im found
My light Shal shine to all around
For a droan I cannot I wilnot be
In gods kingdom as you all may see
so thus I wil be up and doing
While Im on my way persuing
Until I have a good work finished
That my reward may not be diminished
And gods council Ile strive to obey
That I may be found in the right way

Thus Ile be found running my race
By the assistance of his free grace
And upon his mighty arm Ile trust
Until this flesh Shal lay in the dust
And while I travel here in life
Il endeavour to avoid all Strife

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32
Until my race is virtuously run
And ~~righteously~~ a righteous crown Ive won
And while I am sojourning here
Ile invite my friends to ~~share~~ his favours to share
For to all his saints thats good and true
Hele find something for them to do
For the Idler hele not be pleased to bless
Nor in his kingdom gave them place to rest
Then lets all work while it is to day
For time is swiftly passing a way
So let us all our talents improve
As through the the journey of life we move
That our time may all be wel Spent
So we may have nothing for to repent
We wish to have wisdom and Judgment too
Then let us his Commandments and Laws persue
Til we have become verry wise and great
Then all evil ways we shal all hate
And thus to perfection we may all go.
Whether satan strives to hinder or know
Til we are all united as one
And prove that a great work we have done
Then wel not be afraid of his Judgements in the Least
For to all righteous it wil shurely be a feast
A feast of fat things already prepared
And [-]us all the faithful wil receive their reward
But to all that they ways of righteous refuse
To be present on that day they would not chuse
But before the bar of Jehova they all must appear
Wether with Joy or with great fear

[13]

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35
About this time the mob Strove the Saints to affright
And strove to destroy them with all their might
But the Saints the Lord was pleased to deliver
And then they made their way accross the river
And to the wilderness we then did flee
And made our escape as your all may see
And there we found a peaceful home,
Where no mobs has yet dared to come
And here we live in harmony and peace
And thus our wisdom continually increase
Til a fulness we all may receive
Even us who in revelation do believe

I also Composed many more verses on diferent
subjects which I shal omit drawing off here
During the spring and summer of 1851 I contin
ued working at my mill and farming I raised
about one hundred and sixty bushels of wheat
also about three hundred bushels of potatoes. some
corn squashes pumpkins and other vegetables
During the winter and spring of 1857 the Indians
Drove off many horses and cattle the whites
to kill some of them which created considerable
excitement and it was thought best to move our
houses near to gether And form a kind of a fort
for the Safeity of our familys and stock
which was accomplished about the middle of May
The Indians continued to Steal Cattle during the
Summer til towards the last of June when
a company went out to where they lived and
killed about ten of them which caused them
to cease their operations for awhile but we
still continued to heard our cattle of Days and
guard them of nights the greater part of the Sum[^][page torn]

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36
On the 4th of July 1831 I a celebration
of the birth Day of American Liberty
Which was held at Black rock Great Salt
Lake about 15 miles from Tooele City and about
20 miles from G S L City by the citizens of
Utaw territory which was quite a novel and
interesting time And on the 24th Day of
July we held the Aniversity of Mormon
Liberty it being four year on the day from the
time that Brigham Young with some of the
Pianears arrived in the Valley of the Great Salt
Lake Which was one of the most interesting
Days that I ever witnessed at a meeting held.
by the citizens I was nominated by president
Roberry and unanimously chosen by the people
to Deliver a public lecture at the commence
ment of the exercises of the day
This was a task that I would have gladly have
avoided for I thought I should be very inad
equet to the task Bt when the time arrived
and I commenced speaking I forgot my w [page torn]
kness for the Spirit of the Lord was upon me
and I spoke with great freedom so that the people
as wel as myself was astonished and greatly
edifyed and others followed after me and we had
a glorious time it was all Joy and peace and
inteligence our dinner and supper was first rate
our dancing went off well and it was a day long
to be remembered my second Daughter Pollyann
was Married on That Day to Francis Gunnel
a young man from England in the 21st
year of his age In the evening about the
time the pies cakes and beer was handing round

I introduced the following verses of poetry
which I had composed for the occasion
and read them to the attentive Congregation

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37

State of Deserett

Tooele --- July 24th

Verses - - Spoken

By

E - Edwards

Come listen my friends while I tel you a story

It shal be concerning the Laterday glory

For behold it was in these later days

That a standard of truth the Lord did raise

For Joseph his servant he truly inspired

Endowed him with wisdom such as was requi^{red}

He gave him visions and revelations too

And appointed him a great work for to do

It was to establish the truth on Earth by revelation

And to bring to the world a new dispensation

For this purpose the book of Mormon he revealed

It unfolded much truth which had long been concealed

And thus commenced a new dispensation

which caused the Saints to wade through much ^{tribulation}

For it was in a land of liberty so called

For freedom of rights it was verry much extalld

It was truly a Land of republickan Laws

But the righteous were oppressed without a just ^{cause}

For satin stired up the wicked against the Just

And drove them about from pillow to post

Until the prophet of the Lord they had killed

And other inicent blood they had spilled

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But the Saints they never Could subdue

Until they had reared a Temple at Nauvoo

In which great keys of knowledge they received

For which the wicked were verry much grieved

Tha gethered in mobs the Saints to destroy

And their peace they did verry much annoy

But the Lord interfeared the Saints to deliver

By leading them across the mississippi River

Then the Saints through the wilderness did roam

In order to obtain a more peaceful home.

They traveled being led by the Spirit of the Lord
For Brigham did lead them according to his word
They passed through a wilderness of savage and wild [^]beasts
Yet they was not discouraged in the verry least

They suffered much tribulation and pain
But they expected a place of rest to obtain
Through sickness and poverty many many being distres [page torn]
They moved slowly on towards the fare weste

Our Prophets and Apostles they boldly led the way
And the Saints obeyed the things they did say
At length after a great Journey they did perform
Brooking both rain hail winter Snow and Storm

Behold they arrived at a beautiful Valley
And to it with Joy they soon began to rally
It was on this day four years ago
The saints arrived as you all may know

To this land of peace and place of rest
Even to the land that the Lord hath blessed

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Now let us rejoice give thanks and sing
to our leader our God and our king

For to them all praise thanksgiving [^]and honor ~~is due~~ is due
Thus wel strive what is commanded us to do
And wel live in this land of great Joy and peace
While the Kingdom of god dth still increase

Til like the stone that the mountain brought forth
It extends its dominions and fills the whole earth
And now a few words concerning this lovely valley
In which the Saints is beginning to rally

A short time ago a few Saints did come
Here to secure to themselves a peaceful home
And there is now in the valley above four score
And we expect ere long there wil be many more.

We say to all good saints you are welcome to come
And secure to your selves a blessed home
for we have both Land water and wood
And many other things which are verry good

We have peace and union which we esteem very high
Which all people may have if they only wil try
Our president he is verry good and wise
And does that which is right in our eyes

And we find about every other man
Doing about as wel as he Can
Our women is among the best
that has emigrated to the far west
Our young men and maidens theyr all very spry

And in our estimation they Stand verry high
I think we all do as wel as could be expected
In as much as mankind is not yet perfected

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After the 24th there was nothing of any particular interest transpired til the fall of the year But we buised our selves in taking care of our crops and soforth I put in all the time that I could working on my mill we had a favourable fall and I saved plenty of hay straw fodder and soforth to winter my stock on But the winter was so favourable that I did not need much except for work cattle I made me a shop adjoining my house to work in during the bad weather and done considerable in it during the winter

We had a favourable spring and on the 17th of April 1852 my wife Belinda gave birth to another Daughter and called her name Julyann We stil prospered through the spring and sumer and raised plenty of melons and vegetables but did not raise a great deal of grain this summer but Continued working on my mill through the summer and fall til about the 6th of October I got it in operation but it lacked considerable of having it finished and I still continued labo uring on my mill About the 10 of October I was in Salt Lake City and learned that there was an orphan boy about nine years old by the name of John Allen which was kept at the expense of the County and it was proposed to me by Judg Elias Smith to have him bound to me according to the Laws of the Territory til he become of age which offer I excepted this added another member to my family I employed a man by the name of Joseph Mc kinley to tend my mill through the winter on shears did not get much grain to grind through the winter on account of there not being much raised in this valley and it was two far to bring it from Salt Lake Valley to come to mill for which reason my mill

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was not much profit but I Stil kept improve ing my through the winter and in the spring I concluded to dispense with running it with belts as I had been and and go to the expense of cogging the mill through out wil cost about five hundred dollars I employed Capt P [-] R right to do the work of the nane Driving wheel for one hundred and twenty five dollars after the I had furnished all the materials before Mc kinley left of tending the mill

I had my Son George W to work with him about a month in order to learn to tend the Mill after Mc kinley left and he learned so that take Charge of the mill verry well and done buisness so as to satisfy the customers verry wel In the fore part of the winter I went to Utaw County to see my little Daughter Elizabeth which was liveing with Brother and sister Thomas Bennet And when arrived there I learned that they had removed from there to Cedar valley which lay between Utaw and Tooele and I concluded that I would return home that way it was about fifty miles and a part of the way it was not explored I accordingly setout after traveling about twenty miles I arrived at Brother Bennets and found them all well and tarried there all night had the pleasure of seeing and converseing with my daughter She is a Beautiful little girl about eight years of age next morning I started home in passing around the point of the mountain I found some beds of slate which was a strong indication of Stone coal I there for concluded to prove it and spent considerable time through the winter at work at that

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But was hindered by the water comeing in the hole to wards spring so that I gave it up for the present about the 10th of April I sold my house and shop in Salt Lake City for 500 dollars mostly to be applied on Tithing and I obtaine a circular saw which I soon put in operation after sawing considerable of chair timber on the 6th of may 1851 I accidentally cauaht my left hand in the Saw which gave me the worst wound that I ever had in my life tearing my hand and thumb verry much I persevered on with my mill and get it in operation about the first of July and it done verry wel and I employed a man by the name of John Smith to tend it until about the first of march 1854 when Mckinley again took charge of it and has continued to tend it ever since this Dec 25th 1854 about the first of february 1854 I commenc building a saw mill near the head of the grist mill race in connection with my soninlaw Francis Gunnel in consideration that he should be at one fourth of the expenses and have one fourth of the profits and we labou red hard and got it in operation about the first of June we run it through the summer and fall with out a great deal of profit I fifty three the Indian troulls caused the Citizens of Tooele to move to gether

in the form of a four where we had previously laid out [-] city early in fifty four we concluded to wall in the city plot which was common carried on as fast as circumstances would admit till winter which almost half finished our city wall which is about 100 rods square

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on the 8th September 1854
my wife belinda gave birth to another Daughter and called her name Armilda
I had not run my saw mill long till the Eli B Keley the Presiding Elder of our Branch of the Church Took a notion that he build a saw mill in the kanyon above mine and made application to the City Council without notifying me of it and obtained a grant to which I objected in consequence of the scarcity of timber and the damage that would necessary follow in obstructing the water but it was all to no purpose He affirmed that he knew that there was enough timber in the kanyon to supply two mills for several years and as for the damage by obstructing the water he would bend himself to pay all damages I appealed to the County Court and they passed a law to the effect that he should have the privilege of building a mill above mine but should be subject to pay all damage that should be created by the same
and so he went to work and builded a mill which cost about 45 hundred dollars and when he started it he started it he could not saw to any profit without shutting down the gate to catch heads which stopped the water from my mill and by letting the chips and bark fall in the water floated down and kept getting in the throat of my mill and stopping the water so as to cause me to be obliged to stop my mill and travel several hundred yards and turn the water off and clear out the track and then turn the water on again before I could do any thing which Caused me to write the following letter

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44

Tooele July the 24th 1855
Brother Kelsey Dear Sir
Perhaps you and many others may think it strange that I am not in your midst this day to take a part in the Joys of the day mingle my voice with the rest of you in celebra

ting the great Birth day of mormon Liberty
But I wish you would excuse me for For this
is not a day of rejoicing to me But a day
of much grief and tribulation
if you ask the reason why My answer
is Because my Tithing and my honest debts
is not paid and I see no chance of paying them
And if you enquire how that is I answer it is
because my hands is tied If you ask how that was
brought about my answer is this that after I
have come here in obedience to the Council
of the first President to establish mills for
the good of the Saints and have spent my horses
Oxen and other things besides six years hard
labour to accomplish the object and having
faith to believe that I should have the privilege
of occupying them unmolested and making them
profitable I neglected paying my Tithing
and also went in debt Considerable other
whereas with the expectation that I should have
nothing to obstruct or hinder me from discharging
my debts honorable But Alas it is not
the case and why is it not I answer it is
Because you who ought to have been
a Father to me and to assisted me with
your Councils Have laid your heavy hands
~~upon~~ of Oppression upon Me
By building a mill ^{above} ~~between~~ mine and the timber
timber

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45
so that you may take all the custom from me
that you possible can But that did not seem to satisfy your
disposition you went and bought a number
of oxen which you have boasted publicly
that you dont expect to pay for according to
contract and hired hands to cut and haul
all the timber you possible can for fear
I should get an equal Share and not only
that After I have done all that I could in
forwarding your work in building your mill
in sawing your lumber at your own price
you seem to be determined to not pay me in
logs according to Contract I Judge you by your
works as for your with holding the water
from me and throwing you off in my way
to obstruct my business and still contending
that it was perfectly honest you know my mind
about that And I need not add words about it
There is other things which perhaps you
think of minor importance But I can tell
you that every thing has its weight and when
a man has Just about as great a burthen
as he can stand under each little
weight is felt the more severely if you want
to know what these little matters is I can tell
you some of them they are such as

laying an unreasonable Tax on my grist
mill to build a fort wall and then refusing to
let me move it in to the fort for protection
And killing my horse without consulting me
about it and then refusing to pay me half what
the horse cost me But there is one thing
about that If you do not settle my citty
tax and gave me a receipt for the same before
long I shal lay in a charge before Bishop
Roberry

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against you for ordering the horse killed
with out my consent and for un christainlike
conduct and for damage and then perhaps
I wil find out who ~~is~~ of you it is that is willing
to swear that the horse was unlawful
to run out and if you cannot establish that
fact you have laid yourselfs liable to a
heavy fine according to the Laws of the land
But you often boast that you donot regard the
Laws of the land Compareing it to a mop rag
in comparison to the Priesthood But my
opinion is that they are Just and righteous
in as much as they were made by the wisest
men that we have amongst us that holds the
Priesthood As for I told you about
building your mill concerning the timber
and water and profits you wil find it to
be about as I told you and you wil yet
realise that if you had followed my my
advice it would have been better for you
al though you have esteemed my Judgeme^{nt}
as nought and has looked upon me as a much
inferior to yourself this I am ready to
acknowledge that I am in some respects
But stil I claim to be an honorable Man
and in a common way I believe that I can
tel wright from rong and honesty from
disonesty although I dont profess to sit in
Judgement upon my self every day as you
do on yourself
Now I have writen these few lines
with the best of intentions hoping that
they wil effect some good and what I
have written about somethings is only

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47
my belief and if I have formed a wrong
idea about any thing I hope you wil be so
good as to correct me for I wil always be glad
to exchange error for for truth I want you
to understand that you have been the cause of

much affliction to me and if you consider
that it is your privilege to heal up the 
wounds that you have made I am willing
to gave you the privilege to try
E B Kelsey } E Edwards Before writing the above letter I laid in a
charge before Bishop John Roberry
for damage and obtained the following
decision John Roberry has given th
decision that the damages sustained Brother
Edwards by Brother Kelsey for stoping the
water and soforth is fiftween dollars
Secondly that Brother Kelsey erect a screen
at some convenient place to stop the ofol
which comes from his mill But Brother
Edwards shal keep the ofol clear so that it does
not stop the water
Wich Decision I considered verry injust for
the reason that that it did not cover one half
the damage and also that a screen would be
of no benefit except some person should take
the trouble to tend to it all the time and this
I could not do with out walking a quarter of a
mild every few hours to clear out the moss
and chips bark and soforth or else the
water would wash round and do more harm
than good

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48
Nevertheless I concluded to abide the decision
Not that I considered it a Just decision
But I felt Duty bound to honor the Priesthood
as far as it layed in my power Not with standing
He decided contrary to law
But My scene of troubles was not over yet
Although he had by his actions incured the displea^{sure}
of many of the Saints He preached many fine sermons
He concluded to offer his acceptance or rejection to
the People That is to See whither they was willing
Continue him for President or net and when a vote
was called I held up my hand against him.
my reasons was called for and was refered to another
time so when the time came I stated my reasons
as follows that I could not feel to fellowship in
as much as I did not Consider Him an Honorable
Man My reasons for believeing so was called for
one reason was that I did not consider a man
Honest that waited to be compeled to do wright as
He had done when he was damageing me every day
Contrary to Law and Justice whilest I reasoned
with Him with patience and humility
Another was that He had Treated me with Contem^{pt}
by not answering my Communication in any
way shap or manner and many other things
of similar nature This examination was
before a council of his own chooseing and they
payed no attention to my objections Brother Kelsey
was willing to let it drop where it was at first after

hearing my objections But some of his council
in their zeal for to have him Justified and me condem
ned Said that it could not stop there that I was
required to make certain acknowledgements for instance
that I had lied when I said I did not consider Kelsey
to be an honorable man and other such objections
And when Br Kelsey found that he was upheld
by his council

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He also concluded that I must make some acknowledgs or
be dis fellow shiped but finaly they concluded that they
would gave me Two weeks to consider upon the subject
and then if I did not make a confession I should be
disfellowshipped I told them that I was willing to confess
that I had acted inwisely and done rong in raiseing my
hand against the Priesthood but that did not suit their
purpose So They concluded that they would gave
Two Weeks to consider upon it during that Space
There was a conferance held at our Town by some of
The Twelve and the Presidents of the Seventies and
And I asked Council of some of them what was
best to do in such a case they told me they thought
it was best to make any acknowledgements that was
required of me that I could do without lying
So the Time approached and I attended Council
Bishop John Roberry was also there which was
the Presiding Bishop of the County They found
Me of the same mind that I was before and they at
first appeared to be of the same mind as they was before
Brother Sagers was of the opinion that it would do me
good to Cut me off of the church But after much
debating they agreed to take the aknowledgement
which I had agreed to make at the other council
and let me have my standing So I made the
confession that I was sorrow that I had spoken
against Brother Kelsey in as much as he had
been appointed by the Bishop to preside over me
although if it had not been the case that had not
been my president according to the order of the Priesth^{ood}
I should have thought that there was acknowledgement
due from him to me. But I have learned one thing
That is to be in subjection to the order of the Priesthood
whether they do right or rong Before the Council
Met to try my case I wrote a communication
Directed to the Council as fellows

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50

To President Kelsy and Council
Your humble servent begs leave to Comunicate
in writing the cause why He was not willing
to sustain Brother Kelsey as president
In the first place I obtained leave from Brother

Benson to build a sawmill on this kanyon I then had confidence in Brother Kelsey and solicied him to help me build it and have an interest in it But he declined saying that it was out of his line of buisness but said that he would use his influence in my behalf I then went to work and obtained help other wheres and by working verry hard and running in debt considerable I at length got my mill in operation and it was but a short time til brother Kelsey concluded that he must have him a mill and he to the city council and obtained a grant to build a mill above mine before I knew any thing about it which I thought was unfair so I petitioned the County Court to grant me the water power for saw and grist mill purposes on this Kanian with with a Just plea that that was not timber enough in the kanion to Justify the building of another mill mill and also that if he should build a mill above mine on the plan that he intended it would inger mine materially But ~~the~~ he protested against its designing to inger me in any way shape or manner He also g [-]t up a remonstrance againsts my petition and went round round and persuaded the people til he got the majority of the citizens to sign it

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He also threatend the court that if they did Grant my petition that He would go to Brother Brigham and have them everyone broke of their office

I also proposed to go in the kanyon with Brother Kelsey and examine thouroughly and there was timber to Justify the building of another mill I would have no objections But he would not and Said that Thom Lee had told hi him what a great abundance of timber there was in the kanian I asked Brother Lee what he knew about the timber and he said that he had never been to the timber and that Brother Kelsey had never asked him any thing about it But finally we appointed a day to go and examine the timber and Brother Atkin and myself went and Brother Kelsey would not go But we went and faithfully examined and brought a report which was not believed by him I also offered to sell him my mill or a part in it to which he replied that he did not want any thing to with a cabh [- -] or something to that effect I told him that I was willing to any thing that was in my power to prevent haveing a foundation laid for contention but it was all in vain And finally the county court set which

rejected my petition gave him [^]the privilege
of of building a mill above mine on the conditi[^]on
that he should put a mill there that would
not damage me in any way shape or manner
And when Brother Roberry was about to leave
the city he spoke to me on the subject of another
president and wanted to know who I would
like to have I told him that I believed that
whoever nominated would be voted in

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Bt I could not concientiously vote for him
Brother kelsey to preside over me
To which he replyed that it would be rong to
vote against my will for any person against
my will so inder these circumstances I did
not vote for him But he soon commenced
building his mill and I endeavoured to forgav
him and forget every thing that had past
as much as possible and made up my mind to do
the best that I could and use all the charity
that I could and I helped him all that could
til he started his mill And then comence [-]
new trouble for he failed in complying with
his aggreement which he made to not
damage me he stoped the water from
me when he pleased without asking my
consent and also throwed his chips and
and bark in the stream which floated
down in my penstock and stoped up the
the throat so that I could run my mill
without stoping it several times a day
and walk a considerable distance
and turn oll the water and wait til it
drened and then clear out the throat
and then walk back several hundred
yards to turn it on again
And I solicited him to endeavor to live up to
his agreement his reply was that he did not consider that
he ought to pay any damage and also that he would not unless he
was compeled to do so and that led me to say the word which I am now
about to be disfellowshiped for namely that I did not consider a man
to be verry honest if he was compeled to do wright But this was not all
I was told by differant individuals afterwords that he said
that he was wiling to pay me one hundred dollars if that would
satisfy me But still refused to pay me any thing or gave me any
satisfaction And I did not feel to fellowship ~~him~~ such
proceedings and therefore I perfered a charge against

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Brother Kelsey damage and unchristianlike conduct
to which Bishop John Roberry gave the following decision
That the damages sustained Brother Edwards by Brother

Kelsey Stopping the water soforth is fifteen dollars
Secondly that Brother Kelsey arect a ~~dam~~ screen
at some convenient place to stop the ofol which
comes from his mill But Brother Edwards shal keep [-]
the ofol clear so that it does not stop the water
Which I have abided although the screen was as good
a one as could be put in it did but verry little good
the chips and moss was continually filling it up
But at last I invented another plan which does
tolerable wel he also turned the water off to
water his potoatoes ~~which~~ without ever notifying
me and stoping my mill But the thing which
ingered my feelings ~~the~~ as much as any thing was
when I wrote him a letter in order to obtain an
interview with him which he treated with contempt
by not replying either by word or letter
But finally he went and was babtised for the
remission of his sins and in a few days afterward
he went and turned the water off so that my
sawyer had to stop sawing for a day and a half
which time he used it to water an acre and a half
of potatoes These are some of the reasons that I had
for not sustaining Brother Kelsey for
President Although I believe him to be wel
qualified in some respects and I am sorrow that
Circunstances has so transpired as to cause
difficulty between him and me But I cannot
help it I am forced to believe that he has laid
the foundation for all our Difficultys by
doing to me as would not like to be done by
under like circumstances
This epistle had a considerable effect on the honest
hearted portion of the council but they were
the minority in my opinion but some were exus
able on acount of their ignorance

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1856

December 1856

December 21, 1856

1856

This date is Dec 21st x there has been nothing verry
remarkable transpired since I wrote last except
we have had severe famine in the year 55 on account
of the grasshoppers destroying our crops verry much
and also this year has suffered verry much by drought
and worms grashopers and other insects
Brother Kelsey run his mill a few months and the logs
gave out Just as I told him the water failed Just
as I told him it would he has been obliged to let h[-]s
cattle horses and sheep go for debt his mill is doing

nothing and and he is several thousand dollars in debt and his mill is mortgaged for part of it in the beginning of the year 55 he was appointed to go to green river on a mission and gave up his office as president in Tooele and thus we see that God rewards people according to their works

1857

February 1857

February 8, 1857

Feb the 8. 57 Nothing of any great consequence has transpired since I wrote last except my wife Belinda Gave birth to a son on the 25th of Jan 185[-]7 and I called his name Isaac There has been a great reformation during the Last fall and winter such as has not been since we have in the valleys of the mountains And the first Presidency is urging us to sanctify and purify our selves against the of trial which is Just at hand which they say will try every Saint both man and woman I do not know what we will have to pass through and I am not much concerned about it But my prayer to God daily is that I may be enabled to stand in the day of tribulation and adversity for it is my chiefest desire on this Earth Ma God Bless all the true hearted Saints with the like Blessings

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August 1857

August 1, 1857

August the 1st 1857 There has been nothing very remarkable transpired since I wrote in february except a few things which I shall notice Brother Jeddial Grant Died last winter which caused great grief throughout the Church Brother Daniel Wells was Chosen to fill his place all things have went on very smoothly and satisfactorily in the Valleys of the mountains of Ephraim there has been considerable that has [-] left the valleys last spring for the states and California But they can be spared very easily For we Dont want any half hearted mormons here This appears to be the time the Prophet spoke of when he said the sinner in Zion is afraid and fearfulness shall surprise the hypocrite The Saints obtained the privilege of carrying [^]the mail last winter for four years and went to work

and made stations on the road and was making every preparation for to facilitate the business But on the first of July when they was to receive it at Independence Missouri they was refused it and had to return with out it They also brought the news that the United States Government had appointed a new governor for the Territory of [^]Utaw and that he was to start from Independence on the tenth of July Accompanied by 2500 troops to protect him and that the missourians had Murdered Brother Parley P Pratt and that there was great excitement in the States about the Mormons There appears to be people liveing in this Territory which is continually writing all manners of lies [^]about Brigham Young and others which is stirring up wrath and indignation among the gentiles

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As for my own concerns I feel myself under the greatest obbigrations to acknowledge to the goodness of God to wards me for I have Truly been Blessde both temporally and spiritually I have enjoyed the Spirit of the Lord this year to a greater fullness than I ever did in my life And from the first of January to the fourth of July I settled over seven hundred dollars of Tithing and obtained a full receipt for all my Tithing up to Jan 1857 last fall I advised my soninlaw to settle in Cash Valley a place about eighty miles north of Great Salt Lake City I also aconpanied him and found it to be a good valley he spent the winter there and in the spring I advised my son George to go there and make him a farm there which he also did And about eights of July Myself and wife started to make them a visit we had good luck and a happy time and found them all wel and doing well and like to prosper I concluded that I would make me a farm there and got the promise of forty acres of good land there and we returned as we returned home we Come by great Salt Lake City And on the seventeenth of July 1857 We received our sealing By Brigham Young the Prophit of the Lord in the house of endowments at the Alter of the Lord Belinda acting Proxy I first had Elizabeth Cambell sealed to me for eternity X Afterwards I had Sarah Catharine Gibbs sealed to me for eternity Afterwards I had Belinda Miles Sealed to Me for time and all eternity Brigham also blessed me and my wives with an endles Priesthood and posterity and the the gift of eternal lives through Faithfulness

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57

The harvest is abundant throughout the Territory my ground has produced abundantly our prophets are urging us verry much to save all the provision that can be saved for they say wil be a grievous faine on the Earth and that it is near at hand I made a visit to see my daughter Which is in her thirteenth year she is wel grown according to her age and is smart and handsome She is liveing with Brother and sister Bennett which has kep her ever since her mother Died in Nauvoo they live in Payson at the South end of utaw Lake

November 1857

November 26, 1857

Nov the 26th Since I wrote last there has been nothing of unusial occurrence except Some excitement and preparations for War our Presidents concluded to not let the United States Troops come in the Settlements and they are now on Hams fork a branch of Gran River onne hundred and thirty or forty miles East of here the city the Beathren have succeeded in destroying about 75 waggon loads of supplies and taking about 2000 head of cattle and are still tormenting them and they appear to be afraid to make a move any way they have been there two or three weeks but we think they cannot winter there and therefore we expect they wil make a moove some way or else surrender which will terminate the war for this winter But we expect that the United Sates wil do all they Can to kill us off next summe Therefore we expect therefore we expect to have something more to do next summer than we ever have yet had to encounter with But we do not fear all the powers of earth and hell as long as we live our religeon for we know that the Lord is able to protect his saints as long as they rely on him and this we feel to do with our hearts

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There has been considerable of sickness among the saints throughout the Territory this fall and I have had to contend with it in my family this fall than I have ever since I have been in their Territory before But we are all enjoying tolerable health at this time except the Baby which appears to be recovering There is at this time several hundred of our Breathing at Salt Lake City awaiting the movements of our enemies to which we expect to know more about

in a few days

1858

February 1858

February 1, 1858

Feb the 1st 1858 When I wrote last our Breathen was in Salt Lake City awaiting the movements of our enemies which was Camped on hams fork they was sent home and remained at home about tw weeks and the enemy after being reinforced by Colonel Johnson look up this march to wards the City and our Breathren was a gain called to go and meet the enemie and prevent them from coming in they immediatly started on the march through wind snow and storm and stationed thenselves on the road in echo kaniaan about 45 miles from G S Lake City about 2000 strong and waited til the first of Dec and then learning that the enemie had taken up winter quarters at fort Bridger they left the garding o f the road and returned home excep about ten men which was left on the road to wach the move ments of our enemys

August 1858

August 8, 1858

August the 8th there has consider able transpired among us since I wrote last sometime in march Colonel [-] Kane arrive^d here from the States and took an active part in endeavouring to restore peace Consulted with Governor Young and his sociates and then visited the army and consulted with

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Colonel Johnson and Governor Commens and their associates this Governor Comin[-] is the man that the President of the United States James Buckhannon had appointed to be Governor of the territory of Utaw instead of Brigham Young which had been Governor of the Terrytory ever since it had been first settled And allways has been ang now is the universal Choice of all the honerable Citizens of the Territory And it seems harrd and unjust for us to have a stranger forced upon us as Govnor and Also Judges and other officers who have no interest in the Territory And have them backed up by an armed force without any Just cause what ever And that two

without sending an investigating Comitty
as is customary At the arrival of Colonel [^]Kane
we had a standing army organized of about
fifteen hundred wel armed and equiped
for the servise they were principlly young
men my son George making one of the
number And after Colonel Kane had
asshured Comens that he would be proteced
and safe if he should visit G S L City
alone or with his escort he concluded to
accompany Col Kane in to the City and when
and when he arrived among us he found things
entirely different from which they had been
represented and seemed to be wel pleased with
us as a people and seemed willing to do all he
could to prevent further hostilities
But before he had arrived here Brigham Young
had ad[-]ised all of the saints to stop sowing seed
and remove south as far as utaw County where
we could the better protect ourselves from our
enemies for the indians had also become verry
hostile

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And so we continued to move til all the north part
of the terrytory was made desolate except a verry
few young men which was left to water the grain
it was the calculation if the solgers attempted to force
themselves in the setelments without our consent
to apply the tor ch to all our improvements so that
they couldnot possess them we removed the most
of our household furniture our stock and provisions
I removed my sawmill irons to Le high where my
family stoped awhile I then removed Provo where
I tarried about two months which time I spent
in working at spinning wheels
But before the Army attempted to come in
there was an investigating [^]committy come which had
been sent by the president accompanied
by a proclimation offering a fr[- -] and full
pardon of all our transgressions after accu
sing us falsly of a great many things
After having a conferance of about two days it was
agreed that there shoule be peace But the commi
ty insisted that the army Should come in and
march through the streets of G S L City
Which was consented to But Brother Brigha[^]m
advised the Saints not to return to their homes
until the army had pased through the city
and went into quarters Which was done in
a few days and about the first of July Brother
Brigham Young and Heber C Kimble
and their familys and some of their associa[-]tes
left Provo in Utaw County for their homes
in G S L City and advised all the Brethren
to return to their homes which was generally

attended to immediately But I tarried in provo
about two weeks to finish some work I had commen
ced I Then returned to my home in Tooele and
found things in a desolate condition

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But my wheat which I had sowed last fall was
was doing tolerable wel and I have a plenty of wheat
to do me til another harvest I also left 3 or 4 1000 lbs
of wheat and flour at Provo the crops which was
left by the Breathren done remarkable wel in general
which consisted almost entirely of wheat

We therefore shal be verry des titute of vegetables
Since I have returned home I and my Son George
visited Cash Valley and found the the Breathren
doing wel harvesting the volunteer wheat which had
nether been sowed nor watered At this time the State
of things is tolerable gloomy the gentiles that come
in with the solgers is some of them seeking Brigham's
life and he has to keep himself conceiled and have
a gard the most of the time he dare not appear
in public to preach any more so there is at present
a famine for the word of the Lord the Gentile
merchants also has sot up their Stores in the City
and oppress the people by adding verry high
prices to their goods and requiring Cash or wheat
at low prices so that Zion languishes at present

November 1858

November 7, 1858

Nov the 7th 1858 Night before last our little
Daughter Armilda Died after a sickness of
about three weeks - Since I wrote last there has
been nothing of verry great importance
transpired The Solgiers has still kept coming
in the Territory and are localing their winter
quarters at camp floid in cedar valley forty miles
South of Saltlake City they are bringing in immense
magizenes of provisions and clothing and going to Great
expencc in building which gives employment to
a great many people by which means the Breathren
have been able to help themselves to a great deal of clothing
waggons teams and soforth

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1859

January 1859

January 2, 1859

January the 2 1859 It again becomes
my Duty to record the Death of another
member of my family
Armilda Died on November the 5th
And Julyan Died Dec the 19th 1858

March 1859

March 6, 1859

March the 6th we are all wel at present
and we feel to rejoice verry much
after such a siege of sickness and death
as we have passed through our little son
Isaac come verry near dying about the last of
November But the Lord healed him for which
we have rejoiced ever since All things are yet
peacible in the Territory the Gentiles are
some of them Joining the church others are
wishind for the weather to get good so that they
can leave we dont know yet what the Solgiers
wil do But I presume the most of them wil
leave the Territory this Season there is great
exitement in Kansas Territory about the
recent discovery of Gold mines in the
western part of that Territory and
I expect there wil be a good many go from this
Territory For my own part I expect to go
North this spring to Cache Valley about
one hundred miles from here to build mells
and farm and soforth

March 31, 1859

March the [-] 31st last tuesday [-]
eavening about nine oclock my
wife gave Birth to another Son and
my Son George Desired to gave
him a name I consented to it and
he namamed him David

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since I wrote last we have enjoyed
tolerable health the weather has been
remarkable Cold all winter and
continues cold yet for the time of year
I expect to start up north in a few
Days to put in a crop in Cash valley
I have sold my Distilery and Grist
Mill to Jackson Redden
I have received pay for the Distelery 200 dollars
I contracted the Grist mill for 1200 dollars
to be paid in monthly en [-] tallmenths 100 dollars

each til paid I expect to build a mill
in Cash Valley if I have good luck
The prospect for Peace is not so good
at present as it was when I wrote last
Judge Cradlebaugh has been holding
Court at Provo Utaw County
and has been taking several of the Breath
ren Prisner and have delivered them to the
Solgiers contrary to the wil of Gov Comins
the citizens has petitioned the Gov to
have the solgiers remove [-] from the settlements
and the govenor has issued a pr[-]clamation
stating that he does not approve of the course
that the Judge and Col Johnson is taking
But it appears as they take a course contrary
to Law and contrary to the orders of the President
of the united States and the Govenor of this Terri
Territory and I do not know how it wil
terminate But their is one thing that I do
Know that all things will work to gether for o [page torn] ^g00

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October 9, 1859

Oct the 9th 1859 It has been a considerable
time since I have writin in my history
owing to the Press of business and other
matters We still are encumbered by the
armies of the Gentiles who appear to be
waiting for some excuse to commence
hostilities Judge Cradlebaugh failed in his pur
pose and his Course was condemned by the [-]
President of the United States their has other since
that tried to make interrupteon but they have
all failed in their purposes and are about retur
ning to the States with out affecting thing to our
inquiry Merchandise has been brought in the
Territory in great abundance this season
I left Tooel about the middle of April last
and arrived here in Cash valley on the first of
may after a tedious Journey met with no acciden
on the way soon began to put in grain and seed
of warious kind and on about the 20th of June
I commenced working on a saw mill in
Connection with Francis Gunnel and
Wm Maughn which continued with
me til we got the building raised and the
race partly dug and then they got discour
aged and Francis Gunnel sold his interest
to me and I became the owner of 3 fourthe
of the mill and W Maughn sold his
fourth to a man by the name of Thent
I expect to have it a running in a few days
in a short time after I arrived in Cash Valley
the church was organized by Brother Peter
Maughn who chose me for his first Councillor

he also organised the County and appointed
me Justice of the peace to serve til the
august Election when I was elected by a
[page torn] unanimous vote of the people
[page torn] two little bevoys is enjoying good health
[page torn] t this time

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1860

May 1860

May 13, 1860

May the 13th 1860 I again take my pen
to record some passing events
I am now Living at my sawmill
and have been all winter and a portion
of the time without a house The winter
has been a verry on[-] and we have suffer^{ae}
ed much much inconvenience on acc
ount of haveing no comfortable house
to live in I am now tolerable comfortable
scituated my mill has earned me nothing last
winter but it pays now tolerable wel
And I expect it wil be a considerable prop
this summer I am making me a farm here
in addition to the farm I have at welsville
which is thirty acres I shal have perhaps
have about twenty acres here which is tolera
ble good land We are all enjoying good
health at this time and have been blessed
with Tolerable good health all winter
The army of the Gentiles is about to leave
most of them the church is prospering
tolerable wel at present
The goverment of the united states is
trying to lay some plan to trouble or
overthrow the Church But for my part
I feel perfectly safe under the Prettection
of Him who holds the destination of all
men under his controll The emigra
tion to this vally is very great this sprin

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1861

March 1861

March 2, 1861

March the 2d 1861 I again take my pen in hand to record some few passing events it has been some time since I have written on my Journal and there has been many things transpired a few of which I wil record I fenced me a farm last spring planted a portion of it last spring but the most of it got destroyed by the cattle I bought Brother Thents interest in the sawmill which was about 350 dollars and til the first of october last I then sold it and my farm to Joseph Henry for 2000 dollars to be paid in one year in lumber wheat and stock I stil reme remain on the place yet and have bought a portion of the farm and mill site back again and I expect to put up a water pourer burning lathe and perhaps some other machinery I have enjoyed better health since I have lived in Cash valley than I have for many years my family is in good health at this time so far as I know George and Pollyann is liveing at welsville and doing wel I heard from Sarahann last summer she was grundy County State of Misourie livei ng with her husband Thomas Algar and had four or five children The goverment of the United Sates of America is about to be broken up last Summer was spent in great ^{an} excitement in electing a new President And Abram Lincoln was elected president He was what they called a black republican and was opposed to slavery Which caused such dissatisfaction as to cause several of the slaveholding states to secede and the whole of the union is in the greatest commotion that ever was known perhaps some is for war and some is for peace but it looks to me that a bloody war is at their doors but I hope it wil not effect us materially we feel thankful that the Lord has led us far from their midst And while they are becoming devided the Saints is becoming more united and the spirit of God is poured out upon them to a greater extent than I have ever witnessed and we are made to rejoice exceedingly I never saw better days in my life than I do now

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We have a small settlement enough to form a school and a small congregation my two Daughters Olive and Emmy was babtised in to the church on last Thursday the eigths Day of March it being fast day and was confirmed by Bishop Hovey that presides over this ward

June 1861

June 16, 1861

x June the 16th there has been nothing of verry great note transpired since I wrote last among the saints the work of the Lord is rolling on steadily and the true hearted Saints are mad to rejoice exceedingly While while the wicked are doing wickedly the war spirit is stil increasing in the States from whence we came The South

Carlinaans commenced the war by storming and Taking Fort sumpter which was a strong United States Fort in South carolina upon receiveing the News President Lincoln issued orders for the assembl^{ing} of seventy Thousand forth with at the City of Washington and other points which was im mediatly responded to by the several states and the offer of a great many more thousand than was called for the southern confederacy has been equally diligent in preparing for the impending conflict they have formed a seperate goverment and elected Jefferson Davis of the State of Mississipi for their Presidend and the conflict is about to commence in earnest the emigre^{tion} of the Saints will be exceeding Large this season there was e call made last Spring for two hundred waggons and teams to send back to the States for to help the peor Saints to this Territory I had the privilege to send one yoke of oxen my family is enjoying tolerable health at present on the 4th of June 1861 my Belinda gave Birth to another Son and we caled his name Zebulon

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1862

April 1862

April 12, 1862

April the 12th 1862 I again take my pen to note a few passing events it has been a considerable length of time since I have written any in this book There has Nothing of any great note more than usal transpired The emigration was large last fall and we had an abundant Harvest But the rains set in early last fall before the people had got their grain thrashed and continued a great portion of the winter so that their was a great deal of our grain lost We still much wet wether the Spring is late the rains of last winter has caused great damage to property and life in many parts of the world especially in California and Oregon we also have suffered considerable in this Territory Last winter our legislature past an ordinance recomending the People of the Terrytory to meet in convention to take in consideration the propriety of forming a state goverment and of nomina ting our own Officers and electing the same which resulded in the electing Brigham Young for Govenor Heber C Kimble for Lieutenant Govenor and soforth Legislators and representatives was also Elected and on next Monday they all meet at great Salt Lake Ciy to or dain Laws to govern the Saints by The People of the united states is at present and has been

ever since I wrote last there has been many hard
Battles fought and and a great many Thousand slain
on both sides and the Spirit of the war seams
to stil increase and where it wil end no one knows
We have stil remained in pease But we cannot
Promise ourselves peace much longer
I was fifty years old Day before yesterday I have no grey
on my head yet and do not feel verry old yet
I feel as though I mite live a good many years yet
If I should be permitted through the Providence
of my Heavenly Father of my Dear [-]

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I have had fourteen children born to me by three wimen
six by Elizabeth Campbell one by Sarah Catharine Gibbs
and seven by Belinda Miles There is now four
liveing which my first wife bore Saryann the oldest
now living in the State of Missouri which I have not seen
for fourteen years the second is George Washington which
is Married and has two sons and is now living in this
Valley Polly ann is also married to Francis Gunnel
and has four children living and one dead
her oldest and youngest is buoys and the others girls
Thomas Andrew died 10 months of age in Nauvoo
Louisa also died in Nauvoo Elizabeth was married
last fal to E[- - -] aim El[- - -] rth and is now liveing
in Payson Utaw County My second wife
gave birth to a son and his Name was
Esaias he died at about ten months old
My third wifes children is all at home except
Julia and Armilda who died in Toelle City

October 1862

October 20, 1862

October the 20th I again take my pen in hand to write
a few things that has transpired since I wrote last
This is truly a time of great events while many
of of the Saints as wel as my self is trying to purify
ourselves by endeavoring to keep the commandments
of our Heavenly Father - The Gentiles are waring
and Slaying each other by tens of Thousands
in a day and are bringing desolations upon the
land from whence they have driven the Saints
We have the news by the Telegraft from the States
every day and the war spirit increases daily
and no person knows where or when it wil end
and we feel to rejoice that we are here faraway
in this land were peace reigns in the state of
Deseret the emigration of the Saints has been larger
this Season than Common and the work of the Lord
is going on finely the work on the Temple is also progressi[-]

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I received a letter from my Daughter Saryann in June which gave the information of the Death of her Husband

1863

January 1863

January 5, 1863

January the 5th 1863 I now take my pen in hand write a little mor on the 27th of December I was called to tend the funerl of my Daughter Pollyann after a short spell of sickness she departed this life leaving an affectionate Husband and four children and numerous friends to Mourn her loss She was beloved by all who knew her But she is to mingle with the society of her mother brothers sisters and friends - My son George has been gone South to the cotton country ever since last fall and I have heard nothing from him since We have had scarcely any winter weather yet There is lots of united states solgiers quartered Near Salt Lake City and we dont know what it means un les the Government has sent them there to endeavour to raise a quarrel with us There has been a severe battle fought at Fredericksburg in the state of Virginia in which the Cecesion[-]st or Southern Troups were victorious Slaying many Thousands of the Northern Troups

June 1863

June 7, 1863

June the 7th 63 there has been considerable transpired of interest since I wrote last and I acknowledge my neglect in not noting down circumstances as they transpr[- -] The war still contin[-]jes but there was not much fighting through the winter but since the warm wether commenced there has been a greatdeal of hard fighting there has been another hard battle fought at Fredericksburg in which the Confederates were victorious and drove the enemy with great Slaughter there was also a battle fought at Charleston South Carolina in which the Confederates were victorious There has been much fighting in the State of Missisippy lately about vicksburg

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the victory was not desided at the latest dates and there is no visable appearance of the war coming to an end yet The troops that was Stationed near GSL City last fall still remains there yet a portion of them they come verry near raising a war with the Saints in the spring but when they found that we was ready for to

take care of our selves they they withdrew their hostile intentions Governor Harden after showing himself to be as mean as he Could bee has been removed from office. The Indians have been verry troublsome this spring stealing horses and have killed and wounded several men We have had a verry early warm Spring Crops book tolerable wel mony is scarce although the new gold mines is said to be verry rich withein 300 miles north of here we expect mony wil be more plenty this fall. We have sent 500 teams back to Florence this spring to assist the poor and expect the largest emigration to the Terrytory this fall that has ever been in any one season yet .

On the 11th of may 1863 My Wife gave birth to a Daughter an called her name Caroline which Makes me the Father of 15 children by three wimen by my wife Elizabeth six their names as follows the first a Daughter named Saryann which is now a mother of six children and a widow in the State of Missouri the second a son George Washington married and the Fether of two children and is now in Washington County in this Terrytory the ~~third~~ fourth Louisajane which died the fifth a son Thomas Andrew which died when young also a mistake corrected Pollyann was the third child who Married Francis Gunnel and become the mother of five Children four of which is now liveing and one dead She also died last winter. The sixth a Daughter Elisabeth who is also married to Ephraim Ellsworth and has a son by my second Wife a son named Esaias The names of my wife Belindas Children is as follows Olive Emmyjane Juliann Armilda Isaac David Zebulon and Caroline

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September 1863

September 20, 1863

September the 20th 1863

I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing events We still live in peace and plenty in Utaw Thee has been nething unusal occurance happened here since I wrote last crops has been short in some parts of this Terrytory on ccount of the Grasshoppers and drough it being the dryest and warmest Summer that has ever been known in Utaw.

The war stil continues with unabated fury the Federal or Northern Troops has taken possession of Vixburg and Several other Strong holds in the Stte of Mississippi and are now contending strongly for the city of Charles ton General Lee has invaded Maryland and Pensylvany with a large army and taken a great deal of Spoils and made his way back to Virginia after haveing a hard battle with the northern army under general Mead

1864

March 1864

March 1, 1864

March the 1st 1864 I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing events the War still continues But the north is still gaining the victory over the South to a considerable extent though they have not yet taken Charleston nor Richmond yet the Southern armies have lately taken a large amount of provisions from the north in East Tennessee there appears to be not much fighting at present but great preparations making for next summer there is a draft now being made of five hundred Thousand Soldiers to carry on the war next summer from the north they say to crush the south and them back to the Union But they know not the thoughts of the Lord Neither do they understand his council Neither do they that they are fulfilling his will and carrying out his purposes
We are still living in peace in Utah and tolerable plenty the Soldiers that was sent here to watch us is brought disgrace upon themselves and are now dependant upon us for their daily bread they are supplied by our Bishop

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June 1864

June 4, 1864

June the 4th 1864
I again take my pen in hand to note a few more items I have lately made my Daughter Elizabeth a visit which lives in Franklin 25 miles north of this place She and her husband and little boy was all well and doing well I have lately received a letter from my daughter Saryann which is a widow in the State of Missouri she is destitute of the Comforts of life in a measure and desires to come to her Fathers house But cannot come this year I have also received a letter from my son George which is living South in the Cotton Country himself wife and two little boys is well why he chooses to leave his Father and go so far away So that Neither him nor me can be a benefit or blessing to each other I confess I do not know perhaps I will find out some time I know one thing that is that I have not been the cause of his leaving me and staying away by misusing him We are now living in peace and tolerable plenty I never saw better prospects for an abundant harvest The saints are enjoying peace at present while the Nation that drove is out from among them is involved in war bloodshed and calamity there has lately been a number of very bloody battles fought lately in which neither party has gained many decisive victories the North seems to have a great deal the most of men and means

but the South holds their own tolerable wel Richmond nor
Charleston is not yet taken The gold mines which has lately
been opened in Idaho Territory is attracting great attention
many people is coming in here for to buy provisions and soforth
which makes times tolerable good I have rented out my farm and
are now running my sawmill by the help of a hired hand and I am
also running a water power power lathe and circular saw
making chairs wheels and bedsteds and soforth

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November 1864

November 25, 1864

Nov the 25th I again take my pen in hand to note a few
passing events There has been nothing of verry uncommon
Note Transpired since I wrote last
The Harvest turned out uncommon wel and there is
bread stuff enough on hand to last two years if it is all kept
in the country but the prospect is that it wil be a great deal
of it taken to the mines There was a convention held at
Salt Lake City to regulate the prices of produce which
put the price of wheat at 5 dollars per bushel flour at 12 Z
per [-] hundred and other things according although the people
most generally covented to sustain the prices ther is many
that have broken there covenants some through covetousness
and some through poverty or necessity the trade to the mines
has almost ceased for the fall we have the mail twice a week from
Salt Lake city which brings us the latest Telegraft news
from the east which informs us of the Horible Scenes of blood
and carnage and distress and misery which Stocks abroad
in that unhappy Land form whence we came
For which we aught to rejoice and praise god continually For
His preserving care towards his Saints Myself and famil
is enjoying tolerable health at this time and are living in
in peace and the enjouiment of life at present But I know
not what a day or an hour wil bring forth but I have faith
to believe that if I do wright I wil increase more and more
in the Knowledge of eternal Life and salvation so long as
I live in mortality and also of this worlds goos til I wil
have my Hearts desire I have Just got a loom started
with what is called a fly shettle and hope to have my
weaving gone at home after this Goods of all kinds
is verre high and the price is raising all the time
and I intend to have my clothing made at home as much
as possible here after I have not had any news from
my Son George for a long time I dont know whether
he is dedd or alive or what has become of him it seames
as though he has not much regard for me or he would not
go away without my council

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1865

March 1865

March 4, 1865

March the 4th 1865

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events
 We have had a tolerable Cold winter the snow is about
 18 inches deep on the level here at present but we have the
 appearance of a thaw at present I have run my sawmill
 the most of the winter and done tolerable wel I now have a small
 Patent gristmill in operation at present which I do not
 count much on I have rented my sawmill out for twelve
 months and also my farm mostly but expect to put in
 some myself I have sold between 5 and 6 hundred
 dollars in Store pay which has helped me considerable
 I have had no news from my Daughter Saryann since
 last fall I have lately had two letters from George which states
 that they were all wel and scarce of provisions I wrote two
 letters to him and in vited him to come home and except of me
 twelve acres of plowland and 5 acres of hay land
 my Daughter Elizabeth was wel the last I heard from
 her We are all wel at present the war is still
 going on with unabated fury the north appears to
 be gaining ground steadily and is getting the Suth
 surrounded and has cutoff the sources of their supplys
 the Indians have been verry troublesome this winter
 between here and the States and have stoped the Mail
 and have tore down the Telegraft wires and stoped
 the news to great extent nothing more at present

October 1865

October 8, 1865

Oct the 8th I again seet my self to make further
 record of passing Events it has been some time since
 I wrote any thing in my History owing to neglect
 The war come to a close last spring Richmond and
 Petersburg was Evacuated early in the spring by the
 Southern armies they was persued and Captured by
 the northrn army and captured and thus terminated
 the Bloodlust War of the age Shortly after
 the Surrender of the of the Southern armies Abram
 Lincoln The President of the united States was
 Assasinated in Fords theater in the City of Washington

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By being shot in the head by a man by the name of
 Boothe which created a verry great sensation throughout
 the world Vice President Johnson immediately
 Took the oath office and succeed him and is now filling

the high and responsible office with tolerable Success
By means of the war the slaves are all set free wh creates
considerable Confusion and distress in the Southern States
There yet remains a greatdeal of confusion in the States and
I suppose the dfficulty wil never be settled again satisfactor
The Indians have been verry troubersome the past sumer
on the road between here and the States But they appear to be
alittle more peacible at present there has a great many of them
entered into Treatys with the whites and agreed to be
peacible The Church has sent no teams to the Missourie
river this season But there is three companies of Saints
on their way at present We have had a tolerable
good crop season although the grasshoppers and frost
has destroyed thousands of bushels of grain
yet there wil be enough to do til next harvest and some to
spare there is a great deal of flour being freighted to the gold mines
in the north country yet money is scarce and hard to get
It is a time of general prosperity in the Church at present
Brigham and the Twelve Apostles has spent a good portio
of their time traveling among the saints and preaching to
them this season they have visited this valley twice this
summer I have had poor health the greater part
of this season But the balance of my family has enjoyed
tolerable good health My wife Belinda gave
Birth to a son on the 15th day of September 1865
and We called his name Andrew after the name of
my Father About the first of September my
Grandson Samuel Esaias Algar arrived at my house
after a Journy of five months on the road through
dangers and difficulty which gave me exceeding great
Joy to behold one of my Daughters children which I had
never seen he is a fine looking buoy of fifteen years

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1866

March 1866

March 26, 1866

March 26th 1866

I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing
events it has been some time since I have writen
in my Journal There has noth verry unusal
taken place since I wrote before we have had in
general good health peace and tolerable plenty
It is a time of general prosperity in the church and we
expect to send about six hundred teams back to the
missourie River to assist the emigration And
to bring freight for the Church I expect my Daughter
Sarahann wil come with them I have not heard nothing
from my Son George since last Spring except one
letter which stated that they were all wel and

was living in Meadow Valley about one hundred miles from any post office There has been peace in the United States since I wrote last But there is great Confusion among the people at this time the President is opposed to some of the measures of congress concerning the negroes

April 1866

April 1, 1866

April the first 1866 It is my duty and privilege to make the following record in my Journal which I have made out to hand in to Brother Bigalo the Branch clerk for the church which according to the Custom of the Church is his duty to make a record of all such matters Isaac Edwards was born Jan 25th 1857 - in Toele County U-T and was baptised by John King in millville Cash county U-T March 25th 1866 and confirmed and blessed by his Father March 27th 1866 Andrew Edwards was born Sept 15th 1865 and was blessed by John King March 29th 1866 I feel to rejoice that it has been my privilege to live in the flesh to make these records and many other such privileges and I hope it may please the good Lord to spare and preserve my life stil longer

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July 1866

July 15, 1866

July the 15th 1866
I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing events we have had tolerable health and prosperity in our family since I wrote last I have started my new grist mill about 5 weeks ago which does excellent business but there is very little wheat to grind now in the country I expect after harvest to have plenty to do my mill has cost me much hard labour and means and it is worth about ten thousand dollars and I hope that it and my sawmill and my farms with careful management will support my family without me making a slave of myself we have the best prospect for crops this season that I have seen in this country so far The Indians have been very troublesome down in the Southern portion of the Territory have driven off a great deal of cattle and horses and killed a good many of our brethren and we don't know when or where their depredations will stop we are making preparations to guard against them here the war clouds are gathering over the nations of the Earth and have already begun to burst in different places Austria and Prussia is getting fairly

at it Italy also is arraid against the Austry
with all her powers the United States Government
has every appearance of having a burst up
I have Just received a letter from my Daughter
Saryann from the state of missoury She thinks of
Staying there another year I sent her sixty five dollars
to help her but she had not received it when she wrote
I received a letter from my son George a short time
since he seems to think that he is a going to do pretty wel
down there but Says nothing about ever returning to
be a comfort to his Father any more if he persists in
that course the blessings of the Lord wil not follow him

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1867

January 1867

January 20, 1867

Jan the 20th 1867

I knowledg my neglence in not writing in
so great a length of time. There has some things
great importance Taken place since I wrote in
my Journal one thing is My Daughter
Saryan has come to this Country with her children
By the help of the money that I sent her in
the spring and following my directions she was able to
to make her way to this place about the 6th of
october her youngest Daughter Daughter Pollyan
having been sick pretty much all the way
But it was Truly a great time of re Joicing
to us all She lived with me til about six weeks
ago when she moved up to Franklin where her
Sister Elizabeth lives where she has a chance
to get a city lot and farming land for her
Buoys to work the last I heard from my
Som George he was afflicted with the
Liver Complaint We are all tolerable wel
at present I have not prospered with my mills
of late as wel as Could have been required
But I do not feel to murmur or complain at
any dispensation of providence I feel truly
thankful that it is as wel as it is with me
There is a young man liveing with me at present which
I employed last fall to run my sawmill his
name is Frank Sadler He has lately been
Baptised into the Church He was Bornd
in the State of Virginia and has traveled
a great deal through Texas Mexico South
America and the Arizone California Oregan
and soforth and is a man of good education and
information on many subjects and if he holds

out faithful he may become a useful member
of the Church

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July 1867

July 12, 1867

July the 12 1867

I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing events
We had a verry backward cold spring but the summer is
exceeding warm at present our crops in cash county has been
about half destroyed by the grasshoppers and they are still
at work but there is still a prospect of their leaving they are
beginning to fly to the north as fast as they get wings
But the crops looks wel in Boxelder County and from there to
Salt Lake City So I guess we wil not starve verry bad grain is verry
Scarce here at this time and my my mill does not run one fourth
of the time and is verry little prophit to me now my saw mill
has not been verry much profit to me for the last six months
Thus my income being stoped in a manner for sometime past
it leaves me in a kind of an awkward condition at present
I have been building a shingle machine and have got it nearly
to run which I hope wil be some profit to me
My Daughter Sary ann has moved back from Franklin
and is liveing in one of my houses they are all tolerable wel at present
My Daughter Olive was married on the 7th of February
to a man by the name of Durias Clinton Bishop and is now
liveing with me at present My Daughter Emmy Jane was also
Married on the 2d of June to Frank Sadlier the young man that
has been running my saw mill and they are still liveing with me
and he is yet running my sawmill and is doing tolerable wel
at present I have Just received a letter from my Son George
they are all wel at present as also the rest of my children
my wife has had the sore eyes verry bad and is Just recovering
yesterday morning I was taken verry sudden with something similar
to the Cholery and was verry sick all day yesterday but feel some
better to day There is quite an exitement about a report
of the discovery of gold mines said to be discovered about two hundred miles
East of here it is said that Brigham Young has Teligrafted
to the Saints of the diferant settlements between here and
Salt Lake City to stay at home and take care of their crops and other
thing and they wil be better off than if they ran off to get gold

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81

October 1867

October 7, 1867

oct the 7th 1867

I again take my pen in hand to notice a few passing events

a short time after I wrote before we was all taken with the whooping cough and have suffered a great deal with it But we are now getting better My Wife was confined September the 20th 1867 And give birth to a son and we [^]called his name Jesse and Blessed it and ordained it to be a high priest and on the 28th He Died my wife is getting around again so we are all in a likely way to enjoy health again There has been a great failure in crops this season my grist mill dont pay verry wel this season my saw mill paus tolerable wel I have Just started a Shingle [^]mill pays tolerable wel I expect it is the best in the Terry it wil cut 2500 in a da

1868

February 1868

February 23, 1868

February the 23 1868 I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing events their has nothing verry remarkable taken place since I wrote last we had verry mild winter til the first of January after that time we had a verry cold spell til a few days ago the weather relaxed and it is now verry pleasant and looks like spring I went to Salt Lake City about the first of December done considerable traiding and come home and was verry unwell for some time but since that tim have enjoyed verry good health my son Isaac has suffered much with the rheumatism through the winter. There is considerable of sickness here at present Breadstuff is verry scarce at present and wil be til after harvest I have been working in the shop this winter making chairs mostly am now making half bushels An old man by the name of Oren Lewis came to my house early in the winter and desired to live with me this winter and I took him in and he is now stoping with me We have had tolerable good metings this winter we have had debatings this winter in which I have took a part and to be about as able as any of them The members of congress has been endeavoring to get up bills to distress the Saints but they have not yet succeeded in affect[- -] ng any thing We expect to have the largest emigration this season that there has ever been yet the Saints has raised about three fourths of a milion of dollars to send to Europe to emigrate the saints

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July 1868

July 5, 1868

July 5th 1868

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events It has been some time since I wrote We had a backward spring with a greatdeal of rain until the middle of June which made it verry favourable ~~verry favou~~ for putting in crops and their has been a great deal of grain and vegetables put in this season

and it looks remarkable well having had abundance of rain
So that their has been but very little irrigating yet
But it is now becoming very warm and dry now the grass
hoppers has been very destructive in all the valleys. south of
here and are now coming in this valley by millions
and we do not know the consequence But we are in hopes
that they will leave enough to do us if the grasshopper would
let us alone our crop in this valley would perhaps
double any former year We have had tolerable
health since I wrote last I have not heard from George
for a long time it seems as though he has almost entirely
forsaken me If he has any righteous cause for it
I know it not I have other Sons Growing up towards
manhood whether they will all of them will forsake me or not
I do not know But as many of them as will obey Council
Shall be blessed far above those who are disobedient
I there Should be any Such But I Hope and pray
continually that my children may all be obedient to
the Council of their Father and be blessed
Since I commenced ~~comming~~ writing to day the grasshoppers
are coming to this settlement by Millions There is a fast
meeting appointed for all the Settlements in this valley
to morrow at nine o'clock to entreat the Lord to turn the
Grasshoppers away that they may not destroy our Crops
While the Gentiles has been endeavoring to get up Laws
to distress the Saints the Lord has sowed confusion in their
midst and they have Entered a bill of impeachment against
the President of the United States and it before the Senate
of the united states But they failed in their Purpose.

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The Saints has met with a sad loss in the Death of Brother
Heber C. Kimble which happened on the 22d of June
it seems to be a sad loss to the church But inasmuch as we are
required to acknowledge[-] the hand ~~^the~~ of the Lord in all things
We feel to Submit to that which appears to be a great calamity
to us Knowing that the Lord will order all things for the best
Millville is improving considerable we have obtained quite
a large tract of Land across the Creek which gives facilities
for a great many more settlers the water has been so high this
spring that my sawmill has not done much yet
But there is a tolerable fair prospect now for a profit
from it this summer My grist mill has not earned me
Scarcely any thing for twelve months on account of the
Scarcity of grain My Shingle mill is Just started
for this summer and is not likely to earn much this summer

July 26, 1868

July the 26th 1868

I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing events
when I wrote last the grasshoppers was devouring our
crops to a fearful extent But the saints assembled in all
the different settlements in the valley and through
fasting and Prayer they received great manifestations
that they would have plenty left to sustain our selves
and those who may come to so Journ with us
the grasshoppers left and continued to come and go ever

since and multiplied millions have passed over the valley
without lighting If they all had stoped here they would
not have left a solitary green thing
Thus I want my Children to know How the Lord has
miracously preserved th Saints in answer to prayer
We yet have a prospect of a plentiful harvest
We Have been Celebrating the 21st Aniversity of the
Arrival of the Saints to this country on the 24th of July
We had a good time of it My Soninlaw Frank Sadlier
and his Wife Emmy Jane they had a splendid feast and invited
their Father and Mother and many others including widows and
orphans

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85

November 1868

November 22, 1868

November 22 1868

I here acknowledge my neglect in not writing sooner
Soon after I wrote last President Young tok a heavy
contract on the union Pacific Railroad which resulted
in a general Call for all the Surplus hands that could
be spared from the harvest to urnout and work on the railroad
good wages was offered and a great many men went to work
on the road about the first of October there was another
Contract taken by Brother Benson Far and West
On the Central Pacific Railroad which called of a great
many more So that hands are scarce in the settlements
at present But the heft of the work is over on them
contracts But there is another Hundred miles let out
which wil last all winter It is expected that the
Railroads wil meet and there wil be communication
by railroad from the atlantic to the Pacific oceans
before the First of next July and then we can
travel wich a greadeal more speed and Satisfaction
than we ever have since we have ever lived in this country
I attended Conferance at Salt Lake City with my
wife on the 6th of October and had a very comfortable
and happy time We fared Sumptuously on peaches
apples plums and soforth we also had good instruction
There was measures entered into to cease supporting
the gentiles Merchants that was in our midst that
was endeavoring to lay a foundation for our overthrow
and destruction The plan was to cease to trade with
them and let them alone severely That plan has
been carried out so far by all of the true honest
hearted saints But there are afew that thinks they
are at liberty to do as they please and wil suffer
themselves severd from the church before they wil
obey the Priesthood Therefore there is a deviding
line about to be drawn by which the Saints
wel be tryed whether they wil serve
I pray that I may have power to stand am[- - -]

1869

January 1869

January 3, 1869

January the third 1869

Another year has passed away and this day finds us in the enjoyment of good health For which I feel grateful to Him from Whom I have derived my existence We have been doing tolerable wel since I rote last both spiritually and temporally the Railroad is pro gressing rapidly and is causing a great deal of business in the Territory greenbacks is becoming plenty and the x price of everything is that we have to sell is a good price labour is high and plenty to be had on the road the price of Lunber is raising and I have a prospece of doing tolerable with my saw mil if the winter keeps open like it has so far we have had a remarkable mild winter thus far we have had a happy Christmas and newyear There has been a Shool of the Prophets established in Logan to which I have the honor of being a member.

June 1869

June 3, 1869

June the third 1869

I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing events We have had a verry mild winter and been prospered tolerable wel the Railroad which has been the topic of business was connected on the Promontory range of mountains on the 10th of may business is now verry dull the grasshoppers has destroyed the greater portion of the grain in this Settle ment and has taken the crops to a great extent all over the valley and it is trully a time of discouragement a great many that has worked on the railroad has not got their pay and flour is high and verry Scarce and hard to get But we stil have some hopes that there wil be grain enough raised in the Velley to make our bread But in other valleys crops looks wel and we ar not afraid of starving I have done tolerable wel with [^]saw mill Since I wrote last But on account of the Scarcity of grain my grist mill has not earned much lately and is not likely to be worth much to me this year

September 1869

September 12, 1869

September the 12th

I again take my pen in hand to record passing events our wheat and small grain crops have been almost entirely destroyed this season by the grasshoppers this season and they are laying the ground full of eggs for to hach next spring we think of farming on the coopertaiv principle this season so as to help each other defend our crops another year We have had a visit from President Brigham this sumer and also his associates which gave us much valuable instruction We have had tolerable health in this valley this summer

About three weeks ago my son in Law Frank Sadlier was convicted for a dultery and cut off of the church and all of his property taken from him and given to the girls father which amounted to about one thousand dollars worth of property He was also banished from the county under penalty of death never to return So you see that I have my Daughter Emmy Jane with me and her little daughter of nine months old

November 1869

November 16, 1869

November the 16th 1869

I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing events about ten ago I received a verry Severe wound in my leg by an axe which has made a cripple of me at present But I hope to get wel soon again my saw mill has made me a verry good living this season and I have laid up grain enoug to do me for twelve months for which I feen thankful to the great disposer of events

My soninlaw Frank Sadlier has returned and under a strong Covenant to reform his ways Emmy agreed to live with him again Frank Weaver the Father of the girl theat he was two intimate with has also given most of the property into my hands to settle the Debts of Frank Sadlier Frank Sadlier and Emmy is now living at Ogden about 50 miles from here I hope they wil do better

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1871

June 1871

June 25, 1871

June the 25th 1871

I again take my pen in hand to write a few passing events I wish to be excused not writing more in my book

since I wrote last I have seen many troubles afflictions
losses crosses and disappointments which has caused
much sorrow and uneasyness of mind wit [page torn]onsiderable
affliction of body But I enjoy tolerable good health
at present The greatest source of my trouble at
present is the idolness of my buoys they are now large
enough to make a good living by their labour for me
and them selves with the facilitys which I have prepared
for them. But I have failed to find any way to induce them
to labour to obtain means to support my family
Therefore there is a great burthen upon me than I ever
had to bear I hope it wil not be the case verry longe
But if that was all I could bear it better B they are
Disobedient and wicked inspite of all the good council
and instruction I can give them. This is a source
of trouble to me. But I have some hopes that they
wil be better when they get older if they dont this
shal be a testimony against them For I have done my
duty to the verry best of my ability
For the past year I have had much what I call
bad luck and I am now in straitened circumstances
more than common but I still hope that fortune
wil smile on me before long. For I have endeavour
ed to be faithful to the cause that I have espoused
liveing in all good concience to ward God and man
attending to my Prayers in season also attending
to meetings regularly for instruction and for the
Worshop of my Heavenly Father Amen

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October 1871

October 15, 1871

Oct 15th 1871

I again take my pen in hand to record passing
events since I rote last things have not altered verry much
I have lost my crop by grashoppers but there is plenty
[page torn]f grain raised in the settle ments in this valley so that
I can obtain all that I need for labour I have been
running my saw mill this season but have not earned
[page torn]ry much sill I have not suffered for anything material
I have twice of late been in conditions that mit be called
verry near loosing my life once by ridind on the forepart of the
waggon while sitting on the forward bolster the waggon come
uncoupled and I fel forward between the houns and the
horses heels but I succeeded in stoping them before they
ran a great ways If I had not I certainly would have been
killed I also had the Billous cholic a few days ago
which verry near terminated my life But the Lord
has maraculously preserved my life through many
dangers for which I feel thankful and I have a
greatdesire to be useful in assisting to build up his
king dom and establish Truth and righteousness upon
the Earth - It is now a peculiar time in the
History of the Church of Jesus Christ of later day Saints
the wicked and the ungodly have arrested President

Brigham Young and several of his councillors for
alleged Crimes and are detemine to destroy them if possible
But the Saints is not much Scared for they know that
the Lord which has delvered them so often is still able to
deliver them although we may yet have to pass through
narrow places and straitened circumstances
The Saints in Cashe County and Boxelder Counteys
have commenced building a Railroad running from
Ogden to the Soda Springs a distance of about 130 miles
which wil run close by here which wil require agreat
deal of labour this winter in grading and geting
out ties and Soforth

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November 1871

November 20, 1871

November the 20th 1871
times is tolerable Quiet at this time the authorities
of the Church having gave bail to appear at the march
term of the Court the railroad is approaching as f[ink blot]
as circumstance wil permit we have Just finished[ink blot]
an addition to our schoolhouse which makes a comfort[ink blot]
ble meeting house it wil be dedicated on next Sunday
There has been an oppportunity for the saints to be ba[ink blot]
for their dead friends and relatives I have not been
scituated so that I could not attend to that ordinan[ink blot]
satisfactory yet but I intend to do it as soon as
circumstances permit Bt least something should
happen to prevent me from attending to it I wil hereby
insert some of the names for which I wish to attend
to the ordinances and in case I should not my desire
is that some of my sons should attend to it

[14]

Their Names is as follows My Father
Andrew Edwards My Brother Jesse
Edwards My Brother Andrew Edwards
My Brother Jonathan Edwards
My Uncle David Edwards My cozen Thomas Edwards
My Uncle Jesse Edwards My Grand Father
Garret Buckaloo My Cosen John Buckaloo
My Grand Mother Polly Buckaloo
my Uncle Hnry young My Grand Father
Thomas Edwards my cozen Lewis spheres

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1872

April 1872

April 28, 1872

[15]

[ink blot]ril 28th 1872
[ink blot]pen and acknowledge my negligence
[ink blot]frequently this year has
[ink blot]events so far the church
[ink blot]nce [ink blot] last they have arrested
[ink blot]a great [ink blot] ny others for murd and have
[ink blot]in confinement unlawfully But they
[ink blot]Appealed to the supreme Court at the City
[ink blot]ashington Where they have had a decision that
[ink blot]all their proceedings has been unlawful and have
received a telegraph dispatch to set all the prisoners
free but they refused to do so til further orders
we have had a hard winter and a late spring it is
yet cold and stormy with frost almost every night
we have had tolerable health in our family But it has
been the hardest time to make a living for me that I have
ever Seen in the territory I lost my crop last year
have had no income except by my labour and have
had an expensive family to [-] and times is
very dull and at present I do not know how I am to
get a living til harvest But I know the way will
open But I know the way will open somehow for I
expect to do my duties [-] Sixty years old on
the 10th day of this month [-] feel almost as if I have
for 25 years Emmy Jane Sadler is here with us on
a visit and her little Daughter Etna mad me a
present of five dollars on my birthday which was
the first present that I have had for a long time
Her Father is one of them that has been [ink blot] lly in p[----]
But we expect they will soon all of them [ink blot]d soon
I have put in a large crop and if I have good luck
I expect to raise enough to do me this Season But all
things has become so uncertain that I dont know what
a day will bring forth But I expect to do right
and trust in god

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May 1872

May 12, 1872

[16]

May the 12th 1872
I again take my pen in hand to record passing [ink blot]
it is my duty to record the death of another member [ink blot]
of my family My little Daughter Caroline died May [ink blot]
1872 which was born May the 11th [ink blot] 1863
very suddenly while me and her [ink blot]r was at meet [ink blot]
was alone when we arrived in the h [ink blot] we found her lay [ink blot]
and helpless I took her in my arms and asked her what [ink blot]
matter with her she told me that she had been laying in that c [ink blot]
for sometime and that hollowed and could make no person here [ink blot]
and that the worms was killing her there being no person

present B me and her Mother we done all that we could for her but she sunk lower and lower til she breathed her last in about a half an hour. we put her away in the best of order that her ashes may Sleep in peace til the morning of the great resurrection I had a visit from a cozen by the name of John Spheres which I had not seen for 22 years he gave me an account of the whereabouts of a great many of my Connection but the most of my old associates and cozens that I knew when I was young is dead and when I consider the goodness of the Lord to me in preserving my life through so many dangers I feel to return into the Lord the gratitude of my heart continually for his mercies and goodness to wards me

June 1872

June 9, 1872

June the 9th 1872

I again write a few lines Emmy Jane and her husband is still with us I have lately received a letter from my Son George which is living at Panaea in the State of Nevada he and family was all wel. Myself and wife went to Salt Lake city and on the 30th of may 1872 was babtised in the font which is prepared for the purpose in the house of the Lord in Salt Lake City For the following persons. I was Babtised for my Grand Father Thomas Edwards my Father Andrew Edwards my unkle Jesse Edwards my unkle David Edwards my Cozen Thomas Edwards

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My Brother Andrew Edwards My Brother Jesse Edwards My Brother Jonathan Edwards My Wife Belinda was Babtised was Babtised for her Daughter Caroline her Cozen Irena Page her grand mother Rhada Wilcox her aunt nancy wilcox her aunt Thamer Frost. She also acted as Proxy for hr Cozen and caused her to be sealed to me for eternity

1873

January 1873

January 26, 1873

January 26th 1873

I take my pen in hand again to note passing events Since writing I have been chiefly employed in building My self a house I comenced the 15th of July and have been verry Busy ever since and have succeed in getting it ready for plastering at this date the house is a good one and contains seven rooms 14 doors and 17 windows I have Laboured verry diligently I would also mention that Frank Sadlier my Sonin Law my Daughter Emmy Janes Husband has assisted me greatly with

money and Labour to perform the work I have had poor health
for about six weeks I expect soon to have the Burthen of building
my house off of my hands and I hope that I may live to enjoy
the comforts of life in my house that I have Laboured so
hard to accomplish there has been good crops raised through
out the Terrytory this season the first for several years
and we to rejoice that the Lord has rebuked the devourer for
our sakes I mean the grass hoppers
My orchard has yealded considerable of fruit last
Summer and I hope I shal have still more every
Season until I shal have all that I need to make
my family Comfortable The Utaw Norhern
Railroad is going a head finely and wil reach Lagan in two
or three days a place about four milds from here and
then we can travel any where in the united States by rail
where the railroads go I have subscribed for a share
and am now getting out ties and taking to the road

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May 1873

May 11, 1873

~~April~~ May 11th 1873

I again take my pen in hand to note passing
events soon after I wrote last my Soninlaw
Frank Sadler was detected in a case of adultery and
left the county and went to Salt Lake city and Still
remains there as far as I know he left his wife here with
me and she still remains here and has gave birth to a
Daughter and named her Frances Celia
Frank Sadlier has written to Emmy several times
since and manifests a spirit of repentance and
desires to be forgiven Emmy has wrote to him
and promises to forgave him if he wil do right here
after He seems to think a great deal of his wife and chil [ink blot]
and manifests a desire to do right But whether he wil
have power to do so or not I dont know but hope he wil
I have got my house purty wel finished all but
plastering and would have had that done but got disappoi
ted about a plasterer I have boutout Thomas Jesepts
interest in the shingle and Lathe and pickit machine
which was attached to my water power and shal run
that this summer and also my upright saw
my buoys is large enough to assist in running the mill
considerable The Utaw Northern railroad has been
finished and runing to Lagan for a good while
* The church is now in a prosperous condition at present
all the efforts of the wicked to have Laws passed in
Congress to take away our rights has failed and they
have been disgraced and pit to shame a good many of
the saints has been called to go to Arizona to make
settlements there we have had a verry cold backwar
Spring more so than I ever knew in this country
but the fruit is not killed I dont think yet
My orchard looks wel sofar and the greatest portion

is about blooming

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July 1873

July 6, 1873

July the 6th 1873

I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing [^]events

Since I wrote last there has considerable transpired
I have succeeded in getting my house plastered
and have been running my lathe and picket mill
farming and soforth. I have made a visit to see my
daughter Elizabeth Elsworth and received a visit from her
Emmy Sadlier is sill living with me her husband is in
Bingham Cannon mining and writes that he has had
good luck and expects soon to be rich My orchard
is bearing considerable for this season the summer is
verry warm and dry this season crops is not verry
promiseing this season

There has a verry important event taken [^]place in the
History of my Life lately that is I have entered into
the Law or order of Polygamy or Plural Marriage
Sa

on the 23rd of June 1873 I took Ann Nutall
to wife and had her Sealed to me for time and all eternity
Which was a daughter of Willian Nutall and was
born in the year of our Lord 1838 on the 15th of october
in England Toling ton Township She was Married
to a Man by the name of John Robinson in the year 1859
and bore five children by him of which two is now liveing which
is Daughters Mary which was eleven years old the 10th of april 1859
the name of the other Hester which was eight on the elevenths last December

1874

May 1874

May 27, 1874

March the 27th 1874 It has been a long time since I wrote
in my history and there has many things transpired which perhaps
I ought to have written But it is a failing that I have always had
and I would advise my posterity be more careful in such matters than
I have been. as I said in my last I have entered into the order of
Plural marriage and have been liveing in and practising the same with
good effect so far I hereby state that I have enjoyed more of the
Spirit of the Lord living in that order than I ever have in any period
of my life the Same length of time

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Notwithstanding I have been called to pass through greater trials and afflictions than I have ever passed through in the same length of time in my life The Bishop made up his mind that he would cut me off from the Church if I did not turn my son-in-law Frank Sadler out of doors he Mr Sadler having been too intimate with a woman in the settlement the said Sadler had furnished some money and Labour to assist me in building my house and I haveing promised him a room in it for his wife to live in til he could get suited else where So it brought me in to a close place. it was ether to sacrifice my word and honor with Sadler after him being charitable to me or to be cut off from the church to please the Bishop I told the Bishop that I wanted a chance to defend myself which he granted me the privelege and I concluded to make my defence in writing which is given as follows
Millville December the 11th 1873

Brothren sisters and friends. I come before you
This evening in order to answer to a charge which our Bishop has been please to bring against me. Which brings me in a verry straightened Condition I mean the Sacrificing of that which aught to dwell in the hearts of all people and especially that of the Laterday Saints. I mean the Principle Truth and Honesty. x Or be cut off from the Church of the Laterday Saints and be banished from the Society of the Just forever. And inasmuch as the Bishop has gave me the privelege x to make a plea in self defence. I shal hereby endeavor to do so
The charge is the permitting Frank Sadler [^]of taking shelter under the rough of a ~~shelter~~ house that he Laboured with his means and Labour to help me to build After the house was built he made a request of me that I would let him have a room or two for his wife to live in until he could be suited elsewhere
As an honorable man what could I answer. I said yes certainly you can have a home in the house as long as you want it afterwards he made me a present of all the money and Labour that he put in. Under these circumstances. X I do not feel Justified to turn him out of doors at a time when his feeble wife and sickly children needs his assistance There is Some Deeds that he has done which I abhor as much as any person in millville and which has gave him more trouble than any person in Millville I presume

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[ink blot] certain things which is known to the people of Millville which He says he has a desire to repent of and make restitution as far as possible Under the circumstances I do not feel Justifiable in turnring him out
[ink blot] wife and children in the cold winter forfeit
[ink blot] the notions of some
[ink blot] Sadler has Transgressed the Law make him
[ink blot] and not require of me are willing to perform
[ink blot] that it is a religeous
[ink blot] certain individuals and I beg
[ink blot] give my reasons. In the first
[ink blot] gave out a meeting for all
[ink blot] buisness. At the meeting
[ink blot] sustain me as a teacher any longer
[ink blot] the people about me
[ink blot] ner He next
[ink blot] He could not commit
me of any crime whatever [ink blot] was

that I got to sleep in meeting some times. I told him that I could not help it he said that he knew that I could and he would not have any person sit by him that would goto sleep. I told him I did not crave the Job. For his breath Smelled so strong with to bacco that I had to turn my face away to keep from getting sick. Then he called for my resignation as a teacher. and I told him that he could have it I could not understane the meaning of all the preceding until it occured to my mind. That when I viseted as a teacher. I taught him two much truth But I did it ignorantly. For Bishop Hovey told me that it was my duty to tel him of his imperfections as wel as any other man. I done so he thanked me for it. And I took the Same Liberty with Bishop P[-]tt[-]in But I found him a differant all together. For it seemed to me th[-]t it created a prejudice or Jealous feeling against me that it is impossible for him to overcome. For these reasons he had repeatedly accused me [-] in public and private of being the most quarrelsome man in town. But when I have asked him to tel me of one instance me going to a man to quarrel with him he has failed to do it. Also when any diffi culty has a risen between and any of the Breathren. He has allways Sides against me and has Justified the Breathren in Sueing me at the Law of the land rather than have a differance Settled by arbitration

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And went still further and took a case out of President Youngs hands and to act on it himself contrary to my consent. And also compelling or attempting my Daughter to sue for a divorce against a certain day from her Husband or be cut off from the church Also making certain Statements against her character which he has failed to substanciate. There is another thing which goes to prove that it is a persecution

a gainst me individually for there is others in Millville which it wil be admitted

is guilty of as bad a crime if it is a crime that I am accused of that I am threatend

to be disfellowshiped for which has not the least accusation prefered against them

There is another thing I wish to mention that is the Buishop is willing to admit that

I am an honorable man But that I am a verry ignorant man

I have always acknowledged that I lacked wisdom. But I have allways humbled myself before God and asked that I might have wisdom given to me to perform every duty that was appointed me to perform satisfactorily And if he has had more than that I am mistaken. I have had wisdom given me to keep a good standing in the Chruch for over Thirty years I have had wisdom

given me to lead my family and to instruct in rightousness to the extent that I have had

peace and enjoyment perhaps to as great an extent as any man in Millville I have also had wisdom enough to erect a better house than any man in Millville. I have also had wisdom enough to create a better orchard than any man

in Millville also to build more machienery and perhaps own as much land as any man in Millville. I have also had wis dom enough to not abuse any person in a public congregation and insult people so that they would not come to meeting and thereby create confusion in a congregation so that the half of

them would not attend the house of worship.
Now I do not I do not insert this defence with the intention of discouraging any person from obeying the proper authority of the Priesthood
But merely to show that it is possible for a man having the Presidency of the Priesthood to do wrong through selfish motives
After I had read my defence I informed the Congregation that Frank Sadlier had agreed to leave the house rather than give me any more trouble so that ended the controversy
But the Bishop was dissatisfied at what I had written in my defence and had me brought before the Teachers to prove some things which I had read before the Public or take them back. So I attended the trial before about twenty teachers

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The defence was read and discussed sentence by sentence and discussed and examined and no fault could be substantiated and so I was acquitted from any accusation with a request that I make a public statement concerning the matter which I did and also made a proposition to forgive every person of all that I ever had against them and also requested that all persons forgive me which proposition was unanimously accepted by the voice of the people

1875

February 1875

February 14, 1875

February the 14th 1875

After so long a delay I again take my pen in hand to record passing events. After my troubles was partly over with the Bishop Frank Sadlier came back again and crowded himself in to my house with my Daughter and could not be prevailed on to leave any more till spring I therefore left my house and moved my family into another house till the wrath of the Bishop was a little appeased And then when warm weather came it was necessary to occupy a portion of my house again in order to work at my mill [-] I put in new machinery which cost considerable and done good business 1 But in the meantime there was a party that was at work building a mill up the canyon close to timber which was calculated to take all the timber and Custom from my mill Which they knew would throw me out of business and cause a loss of all my mill property which I depended upon for a support of my family. The Bishop was at the head of that company and did all that was in his power to tie my hands Both temporally And Spiritually For no other reason than that I knew more about many things than He did and had the courage to tell the Truth almost too often to suit him that he acknowledged Was the greatest fault that I had. But I don't want to be any man's decider. X But I am perfectly willing that God our Heavenly Father Shall Judge between me and all men Which he most assuredly Will. By this time I began to see my self hemmed in to pretty close quarters and I felt Discouraged for it seemed as if I had no friends in the place

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that was willing to stand up for my rights. And notwithstanding I had by my hard Labour and Economy Secured for myself the best House in the place and the best orchard and had the best and most beautiful and convenient scituation every way of any person in the place. I consented in my mind to leave all for the sake of having freedom of mind and actions

And about the first of July there was a call made for voluntiers to go South to settle about St george neare five hundred miles South from where I lived at Millville. And their was no person that was willing in Millville to leave there and go South And I told the Bishop that I would go if it would fill the bill he Said it would So next day I went to Lagan to see Brigham Young Junieur which was then President of Cash County and told him that I had consented to go South to St george if I could Sell my place he Sad that I was the kind of men that they wanted down there and that the People of Millville must buy me out and gave me a good price for my place so that I could buy a place down South. But they was verry Slow to do so Some Called me an old fool for leaving as good a place as I had and go to a country that I could not make a living and many other things to try to discourage me from going from there But I was firm in my Purposes at length the Bishop agreed to give me for my mill property as much as it should be valued by three mill wrights. Accordingly I had the men that was agreed upon to make the Valuation which was 2500 dollars And when he heard the price set on the property by the committy he backed out and said he would not pay any more than 1500 dollars And the trade Stoped But I told him that I had a span of ponys and waggen and I would go any how. He said he gloried in my Spunk But after delaying about a month Hee told me that he would gave me Sevenhundred Dollars worth of property that fall so that I could fit myself with a team to move with and 700 more next fall and 700 the following spring I told him that I would take it for it was better than nothing So we made the trade and I began to prepare to move

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I had considerable trouble in changing such property as the Bishop and others pleased to let me have in to waggons and teams at length I fitted my self out with one waggon and a Span of small mules also a waggon and two yoke of oxen also an extry yoke of oxen a mule and three cows two yearlins and soforth and left Millville on the second Day of October 1874 and went to Logan Bridge where I expected to Join some other familys which was expected to travel South with us I was advised to take only a portion of my family by Brigham Young Junieur until I could secure a home for the remainder of my family. So I took with me my wife Ann Nutall her little Daughter x Hester and also my two Sons David and Zebulon When we arrived at Logan Bridg we found only two familys there we waited another Day and two more familys arrived So Brigham Jun and Bishop Preston. Come to organize the company

And Put me in to take the oversight of the Company. Accordingly
We started the next morning on our Journey of nearly 500 miles
For St george. Nothing very remarkable happened til we arrived
at Dimond valley on the 10th Day of November[-] Twelve miles
North of St george here I left my teams to rest and went to
St george on horseback. I saw Bishop Gardner and asked him
what I should do he told me that President Brigham Young
would be here in a few days and he would rather I would see him
accordingly I waited til he come and then I went to see him
And I told him that I had arrived and asked him what
he had for me to do. ~~he~~ He asked me what I wanted to do I told him
that I had some thought of purching a place in Dimond Valley
of John Algar He told me that would meet his mind
and he thought it would be the best thing that I could do
Accordingly I returned home and mad a bargan with John
Algar for a part of his property consisting of an orchard containing
Fifty Apple trees 150 Peach trees apricots plums and soforh
with three achors of land with water for the Same
and Also a portion of the priviledges of another Spring
and in another place on the road where I am now building
and improving With some farming land. So this date
brings me to this place at this time

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May 22, 1875

May 22, 1875

May 22 - 1875

I take my pen in hand again to note some passing events
We have the mildest and most pleasant winter
that I ever experienced I have been labouring with
my two buoys David and Zebulon improving my
new home have built me a house fenced three acors
of land planted lots of Apple trees peach trees
grapevines and soforth. Have also made a good
many Chairs and sold for provisions to live on
We have been quite disappointed on account of our
cows not having not had calves as I expected
in consequence I obtained leave to take up a wild cow
that was running one the range about where I lived
And while I was endeavouring to milk her I received
a sevier kick on my right knee which made me verry
lame and have not got wel yet I have received several
letters from my [^]wife in Cash County they were all wel
and doing wel the last I heard from them
I hav a prospet of haveing considerable of fruit this season
although the peaches is partly killed the apples and
grapes is not hurt yet

June 1875

June 13, 1875

June 13th 1875

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events. since I rote last I have received a wound in my knee by the kick of a wild cow in trying to milk her my cows has had no calvs yet and it is pretty dry living without milk and I failed to get any milk from that cow the owner having gave me leave to milk her if I could but I could not though we have a little milk now from other sources we have the dryest and windiest Spring and somer that I ever saw we are raising considerable of fruit sich as Grapes peaches apples and soforth I have not heard from Belinda for about two months we are trying to raise some produce such as Corn potatoes and soforth I am also working at a sellar and kichen to gave us more room

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August 1875

August 27, 1875

August 27th 1875

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events We have all been tolerable wel since I wrote last My wife Ann his been very weakly ever since I married her and Still remains so my Wife Belinda has not written to me since last spring and I feel as though she almost intend to forsake me. I have had better health this last somer than I thought I would have in this Southern Country I have done a greatdeal of hard work in the sunshine this somer and I now feel first rate I have finished my Sellar which makes a convenient addition to my house which is thirty feet in Front containing two rooms with a seller the whole lenth on the back par My fruit crop is only midling this season it is now beginning to get ripe. I have not raised but very little of any thing else it has been the dryest and windiest season here that I ever seen. I expect to do better next season. I expect to start North in a few days to get some property that I have comming to me there and fetch the ballance of my family down here It is a task that I dont like But I cant get around it I expect it wil be a hard trip it is about five hundred miles the way I wil have to go. I hope that I wil be able to Sell out my homestead while I am up there this time

November 1875

November 28, 1875

November 28th 1875

I now take my pen in hand again to note passing eve [page torn] I have been up north since I wrote last and returned on the 10th of this month in tolerable health al though I had a hard trip and a gooddeal of bad luck I started from here on the second of September and arrived in Millville on the 18th my horses both died about a week after I got there and my only alternative was to drive an ox team down here and

after about three weeks I had collected the most of my
that was Due me then But I could not sel my place
and my Wife Belinda Concluded to Stay and take
Care of it til it was sold. And my son Zebulon

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that was with me last summer refused to come
with me but would stop with his Mother in Millville
But Andrew my youngest Son ten years old
was willing to come with his Father which proved
to be a great benefit to me. So I started to come here
I could not hire any person to come along with me to help
drive my stock as for my Son Isaac he never come near
me to offer me any assistance whatever. When if he had
done his duty towards me he mite have been a great Blessing
to me. But He has forsaken the Father that gave him
life and a being upon this Earth without any just cause
what ever. And what his reward wil be I leave for
My Heavenly Father to decide. And So I started
expecting to meet Brother Charles Shumway at welsville
which was comming down here and had stock to drive and had
aggreed to assist me with my stock. But he disappointed
and went another way. So it left me alone with two yoke
of wild oxen two waggons two horses eleven head of sheep
and fifteen head of loos cattle with no help But Andrew
And so I started. Zebulon went with me the first day
But when night come the Stock Scattered and the most
of it left me. So I was detained about three days getting my
team together So that I could proceed on my Journey
I lost my sheep and the most of my cattle which amounted
to about three hundred dollars X for which I dont know as
I wil receive but verry little. I had to buy feed for my team
all the way going and comming. So you see that I have not
made much in my trip north. But me and my little son
andrew come down with two yoke of wild oxen two horses and two
waggons and arrived safe in tolerable health without
any breake down. I come by Provo where my half Brother
James Bean and his son James Bean Junior lives and had
quite an interesting time and I also seen many of my
old acquaintences on the road and when I arrived at home
I turned out a new waggon and one yoke of oxen on payment towards
my place

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1876

April 1876

April 23, 1876

April the 23d 1876

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events
We have been quite loansome this last winter and spring
the only two familys that lived in the valley moved to
St george last fall leaveing is aloan the nearest family being
eight milds distant. But there has been a good deal of
travel from St george and Washington to Pioche and the
northern Settlements passing by here which has helped
the matter Considerable. We have had a dry windy winter
it has also been a cold winter for this climate X
We have had tolerable health since I wrote last there has been
some excitement about Silver mines about here and the Southern
Country I have found Silver in about a mile from here
there is verry rich mines about twenty miles from here which
is being worked.

August 1876**August 15, 1876**

August 15th 1876

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events
there has many things transpired since I wrote las [page torn]
My wife Ann Nutall started north with her
Daughter Hester I having secured the servises of
my grand son **Joseph algar** to drive the team to cash county
in order to bring her Daughter Mary down here
so that I and my little son Andrew was left aloan
they expected to be back in about six weeks
But they was detained there about Six weeks in order
to try to obtain some property that I had coming to [page torn]
there But out of about eight hundred dollars
they only obtained a little over 200 dollars worth
and they arrived here about the 10th of July my wife
being verry much fateauged and is yet verry feeble
but is able to be up and around the rest of us
has been tolberale wel It has been the windiest
warmest and dryest season that has been for
many years the late frost and rabbits has destroyed
all my vegitables and some of my fruit But there
is a good crop of fruit left it is now beginning to get

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January 1877**January 14, 1877**

January the 14th 1877

I take my pen in hand again to note some passing events
we have enjoyed tolerable health since we had a tolerable
crop of fruit we dried about six hundred pounds my wife sent
about 300 pounds to Saltlake City and got about 100 yards
of calicoes and other Clothing for the family and some others
things that we needed I have been labouring at diferant

kinds of work to secure breadstuff and other provisions and have had tolerable good success so that we have not suffered for any thing We have had a good Conferance last fall and I attended it it was held in the St george Hall at which time the Hall was dedicated I also attended the dedication of the Temple in St george on the first day of this month or on new years day and we had a good time the Saints is working in the Temple 2 days in each week Babtising for the Dead and giving endowments We have had a verry dry time ever since last spring not having but little rain and no snow til last night we now have about 8 inches of snow

March 1877

March 18, 1877

March the 18th 1877[-] I wil write a little more in my Journal Since writing I received a letter from the North stated that my family living up there was wel and had plenty of every thing to make them comfortable the had raised over 400 bushel of apples besides any amount of other fruit and had hay to sell we have an early Spring the peach trees are in full bloom at present and other things accordingly there has not been any rain for a long time and it is verry dry at present

March 25, 1877

March 25 since writing I have been to St George and spent 3 days in the Temple in the behalf of My Father Andrew ^[-----] Edwards My Brother Andrew ^[-----] Edwards My Brother Jesse ^Isaac Edwards Uncle David and JesseSamuel Which I count a verry great privilege for it is the begin ning of that great Day or time of the restitutuon of all things Spoken of by all the holy Prophets since the world began It affords me great Joy and Consolation to think that I have had the privilege of living in this dispensation

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April 1877

April 22, 1877

April 22d 1877

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events I have allready spoken of going through the Temple of the Lord in behalf of my dead friends without giving the date it was on the 21st of March in the year 1877 that I attended to the ordinances for my Father Andrews ^Ja Edwards on the 22 for my Brother Andrew ^Zach Edwards and on the 23d for my Brother Jesse ^Isa Edwards

Since that time I have attended Conferance in the Temple on the 6th-7th-and 8th of april with my Family on the 7th my son

Andrew was baphtised and confirmed a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of latter Day Saints
He was Born Sept the 15th 1865 of Belinda Miles Edwards
We had a good Conferance we had excelent preaching and a good attendance President Brigham Young presided his Council and the most of the twelve Apostles was there
to day has a verry gloomy appearance the weather has been verry cold and windy with some snow and last night it frose verry hard and to all appearance has destroyed all the fruit except the grapes which has not blooms yet
X

June 1877

June 17, 1877

June 17th 1877 I again take my pen in hand to write a few more lines concerning past events. we have had a verry backward dry and cold Spring the fruit is all killed except a few apples and some grapes
our X little Daughter Mary Rebeson has been verry sick near unto Death But the Lord heard our prauer in her behalf and she has recovered again
I returned a few days a goo from a visit to Navada to see my Childril George and Saryann I found George living in Panacca having Sevin Sons and one Daughter they were doing wel and and was glad to See me and gave me many Presents. I went from there 35 miles north where my Daughter Saryann lives they were glad to see me and also gave me many presents and promised to make me a visit in the fall

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October 1877

October 7, 1877

Oct 7th 1877

I again take my pen in hand to note passine events Since I rote there has been some interesting events taken place the Summer has been unusal warm and dry through the Southern portion of the Terrytory work has been going on in the Temple Steadily until until the Death of President Brigham Yound which took place on the 29th of august which cast a gloom over the whole Church. His Funerl took place on the 2d of September at the new Tabernacle it was thought to be the most interesting Funeral ever held in America there being about 25000 people in attendance He was buried according to his own request in a plain redpine coffin on his own lot in his family Cementery it was agreed by a council held by the apostle of the Twelve Apostles that Elder John Taylor take the responsibility of the Presidency of the Church assisted by the Twelve apostles and

John W Young and Daniel Wells which was
~~Poesi~~ Satisfactory to all the Saints so far as I know
There is two more Temples under way of Construction
besides the one in Salt lake City One in Logan
Cash County the other in Manti Sanpete County
On September the 19th the corner stones of the Temple
in Logan was laid with great Ceremony
by the Priesthood which was assembled for the
Purpose the Temples is getting along first rate
and all things is peace and quietude in the Church
at present our enemies in Saltlake City and elswher
are doing all they can to distress the Saints But
we have got used to it The European war is a
raging between the Russians and the Turks
The Russians commenced the war but the Turks
is getting the better of them at present

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1878

April 1878

April 7, 1878

April 7th 1878

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events
and I acknowlege my neglect in not writing oftener there has
some things of importance transpired since I wrote last I moved
my family down to St george last fall which consisted of my wife
Ann Nutall her two Daughters Mary and Hester and my
son Andrew in order that the Children mite go to school which
they did the most of the time I stoped in Dimond Valley the most
of the time and took care of the place During which time I went
through the Temple of the Lord for several of my dead relatives
My Wife Ann also went through for my first wife
Elizabeth ~~asa~~ Campbell and her Mother Alice Nutall

My Daughter Elizabeth Edwards Elsworth Died at Franklin
in Idaho Terrytory leaving five or six children which was
verry sad news to me for She was one of the best of wimin and
leaves her Husband in an unpleasant condition in charge of
so many little children But we have to bear all such calamities
while we dwel in mortality My Daughter Sary Ann
Edwards Algar made me a visit last winter and was verry kind
to me And made me some presents. My Son George has
never made me a visit since I have been down here But I am
loking for him pretty soon I made him a visit last summer
and he was verry kind and made me lots of presents
My family is now moved home and we are prepareing for our summer
buisness our orchard and vineyard loocks verry beautiful the peaches
being out in bloom and if the ~~harves~~ frost does not interfere we
expect an abund harvest of fruit this Coming Somer times is
some better than they have been in former years the silver
mines at Leeds still continue increase in in richness and business

which employ a great many teams and hands which gives a considerable circulation to money there are other mines in the [ink blot] untry which is about being opened which wil stil make more [ink blot] isness so that perhaps times wil Still be better we have had a good deal of rain through the winter which wil help to make the grass grow and make things lively The rusian and Turkish war has come to a close the Russians Come of victorious X

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1879

April 1879

April 13, 1879

April 13th 1879

I now take my pen in hand to note passing events my family has returned from St george and we are together comfortable scituated enjoying tolerable health except my eyes which is still sore We have had a cold winter and an early Spring and a good prospect for fruit but it is liable to be kiled with frost yet Belinda left here last winter and went to Panacca Nevada where my son george lives and took Andrew with her and Staued there all winter and I dont know whither she has left there yet or not She attempted to send Andrew to her home in Cash County by a waggon but it was so cold that returned back to Panacca when I heard that I sent word to [^]my son George send him home and he did so about the middle of march so after keping him away from me about three months and keeping out of School she let him come home but told him that she would come and get him and take him home with her But he says that he would rather stay with his Father But I dont know what time wil bring about I am now 67 years old last thursday and feel as if I could lived Twenty years yet My son George sent me ten dellars for a birthday present for which I feel verry thankful it being all the birthday present that any of my children has ever sent me the Children of my last wife has been verry ungreatful to me as wel as their mother The most of them has forsaken me without the shadow of an excuse

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May 1879

May 18, 1879

May 18th 1879

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events there has nothing verry remarkable happened since I wrote last I have received a letter from my Daughter Olive that lives in Cash Valley She informed me that her Mother had returned home in Cash Valley on the 10th of April and drove her Daugther Emmy Jane Sadlier out of doors which I consider a verry shameful act inasmuch as Emmy Jane unwe had six small children and was near being Confined with another and her husband being away from home and she was living in the house with Olive the last I heard from her Since I received a letter from Belinda which was full of flattery and deceit Calling me her ^Dear husband asking me to forgave her of all her wrongs and wished me to Andrew to her and also to send her a deed to all my property in Cash Valley But never said a wor word about turning Emmy out of doors She has three sons up there She has three Sons up there which she caused to leave me and they wont none of them live with her and now she is determine to take Andrew from me and I dont know but what she wil accomplish her helish design we have a tolerable fair prospect for fruit this season it has been the dryest spring that we have ever had since the country has ever been settled

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October 1879

October 22, 1878

October 22d 1879

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events There has been considerable events taken place since I rote last Belinda has been insisting the strongest kind for me to come and live with her But I have no time to throw away with her now I have Spent enough of my time in contention I would like to live the balance of my time in peace if Satan wil permit but there is no telling what a day wil bring forth We have had the dryest summer that ever was known in this country But we have raised a loterable good crop of fruit especially grapes we have got all of our fruit gathered and cared for we have raised at least five hundred dollars worth of produce on the place and and spent a portion of our time in other work such as making chairs coopering making grindstones hearthstones and soforth to the amount of about three hundred dollars besides improving the place considerable My eyes is not got entirely wel yet But they are improv ing some little they have been diseased for over a year so that I could not see how to read a good portion of the time otherwise we have had tolerable health we have milked during the somer but we have had to feed them all the time the drought was so severe the grass did not grow I have had my horses about Sixty mile south in Brother Sullivans herd so that I would not have to feed them

I expect to send my cows out west where there is some grass and winter them there I expect to send about two hundred miles north for flour for my bread for to do us til next harvest

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Money is verry scarce and hard to get But I have some molasses som drid fruit some wine and soforth to spare which I expect to send and [-] sold and the flour feched to me on shairs so I expect to get my flour about as easy as if I had raised it
There is a good many people selling out and moving away mostly to arizona and new Mexico The [-] Kingdom of God is moving on Steadily since the Death of Brigham Young John Taylor is acting as President of the Church and fills the place admirable Wel They have had considerable of trouble in settle ing the estate some of the heirs being dissatisfied with the way that the Executors settled it with the Trustee in Trust they being teased by the gentile Lawyers entered Suit and had the Executors put in prison but B the actions of the Judge and Lawyers was so ridiculous that the President of the united States sent out a new Judge and he released them finally there was a compromis made by giving these rebelous heirs 75000 dollars more than what was right and it was ratified by the United States Court so there is an end of that trouble the Priesthood is Buisily working in the Temple in St george and things is going off wel

1880

January 1880

January 11, 1880

January 11th 1880

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events There has been not much of any great importance transpired since I wrote last we have had one of the dryest summers that has ever been known here and the coldest winter so far that has ever been known so far

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Politicks run verry high in the states and must lead to civil war before long I think the time wilnot two years But the government is bound to make war against the Saints before that time their pretence is Polygamy or Celestial marriage there is great exertions being made in Congress to disfranchise the saints I have heard nothing from my Children in cash valley yet it

seems that all my family connection has forsaken me except the few that is now living with me now and I dont know when they wil forsake me But I intend to do the best I can for their Comfort and if they do forsake me I wil have the satisfaction of knowing that I have done my according to the best of my ability

April 1880

April 11, 1880

April 11th 1880 I wil now take my pen in hand to note passing events there has nothing of any verry great importance taken place in my family since I wrote last any more than I have been afflicted with Disease more than usual I have had a disease of the kidneys and uriney organs which has troubled me more or less for many years about a month ago it assumed a dangerous condition by the retentione of the urine it becoming verry difficult to pass it There having several died of late with the Same disease I acknowledged that I [^]was a little allarmed at my Condition I went to Stgeorg and seen Doctor Ivens he told me that he had knew a good many such cases and gave me instructions whad to do if I got any worse I learned afterwards by Brother Henry Chappin that to make a tea of the prickley pear and drink it frequently it would do me good and I did so and drank it at meals instead of other food and it seemed to gave timely relief But seemed to relax the whole system

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I write these things for the benefit of others if any should be operated upon in the same way Since then I have been afflicted with a verry bad Cold or Cough But I am now getting better of that and a what wil come next I dont know when I was labouring under that dangerous disease I wrote to my Son George to beshore and come and make me a visit for there was many things that I wanted to tel him and that it was uncertain what a day would bring forth But I have heard nothing From him since I have now been liveing here over five years and and my Son George has never made me a visit yet although he lives about 80 miles distant and has allways been in possession of good teams and waggon. Notwithstanging I have not the least word to say against him for when I went to pay him a visit he received me with great cordiality and gave me lots of presents and has allways been ready to help me to anything that I needed He was the only Child that ever sent me a birthday present [^]for the year 1879 He sent me 10 dollars which did me good at other times he has sent me such things as I kneeded But I would like to have him Come and make me a visit the best kind as for the balance of my Sons Daughters soninlaws and grand children they dont appear to care anything about me It seems as they have forgotten that I have gave them a being in mortality and wached over them with great anxiety and ceare and spent the strength of my best days for their life and comfort There has never one of them come to see me for the last five years except my oldest Daughter Saryann and some of her children I was sixtyeight years old yesterday and not a child has sent me a birthday present or any word any way on last tuesday I went to a place Called Gunlock about 7 miles

from here to help Celebrate the fiftieth year or the great Jubilee of the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints
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I desire to now write a Patriarkal Blessing pronounced
upon my head by Hyrum Smith Patriark of the Church many
years ago which reads as follows
A Patriarchal blessing pronounced on the head of
Esaias Edwards Son of Andrew Edwards and Anna Edwards
Born in Pike County State of Missouri April 10th 1812
By Hyrum Smith Patriarch of the church of Jesus Christ of
Laterday Saints Dec 1st 1840
Brother Edwards I lay my hands upon your head
in the name of Jesus Christ of Notherith to bestow on you a
blessing that may remain one that Shal be sealed by promise
and [^]by the sanction of your Father in Heaven and the promise which
Shal be made shal be fulfilled in their times and seasons
agreeable to his wil You are a desendant of Abraham and in the Lineage
of Zebulon and in which lineage and in which [^]lineage you and your
posterity Shal receive an inheritance You are entitled to the
Holy Priesthood Which is after the Order of Melchisedeck
through which you may reap the reward through promises obtained
by your Fathers which Promises have come down unto you
in its proper lineage and the power there of is the cause by which
you have been wrought upon from time to time and your mind stired up
un to righteousness the same hath enlarged your mind so that you have
received in the own due time of the Lord the fullnes of the Gospel of Jesus
Christ. not only that but the Same hath rought upon your mind
to preach the word and for this cause you have a gift and a calling which
is in you. therefore a dispensation of the gospel is delivered to you and
the gift and power of the Holy Ghost which shal rest upon and

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abide with you which power you shal feel and realize
from time to time which is the due times of the Lord
that all things may be fulfilled agreeable to the
plan of salvation according to the principles which are organized
and ordained in heaven from before the foundation of the world
that you may work out your salvation with fear in his presence
and because of the Holy Priesthood he worketh in you to wil
and to do according to his pleasure that in the times when he worketh
in you shal realise the fulfilment of the promise made to you for
shal then walk by Sight and not by faith being moved upon by the
power of God which you cannot resist for it shal be as fire shut
up in your bones and you cannot ~~resist~~ for bear therefore the day
shal come and not far hence when you shal receive a witness
from God to your own satisfaction concerning these things for you
shal receive the power of the Priesthood and the gifts and graces
of the same which giveth all the gifts that are necessary to be given to
those who wach over the church to desern the wicked from the right
eous and the spirit of the ~~evil~~ Lord from the spirit of the evil one
darkness from light and light from darkness and the differances of

administration of the Spirit both by the good and of the evil that you may not be deceived which power you are not fully in possession of yet I therefore confer this Blessing on your head which you shall receive in the due times of the Lord and the same power prevails over evil spirit which seeks to destroy which is to cast out devils to heal the Sick to cause the deaf to hear the blind to see and the lame to leap as an heart this power also shall be given to you in the own due time of the Lord and you shall have power and influence over many people in the day that you shall be polished for the quiver of the Lord and as shaft in his own hands when he shall right you you up and trim you as a lamp that burneth whose light cannot be hid in the day that this grace shall shine in your forehead having waxed strong in the

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in the power of his might for his spirit shall rest upon you which I seal by promise for he shall speed forth and it shall rest upon you in power and in glory then you shall have power over many people and not alone on the learned and unlearned but on the mighty and the noble also for the day shall come and not far hence when your time must be devoted for a season not a short but a long season reasoning the people concerning sin and of righteousness and the Judgment to come proclaiming the gospel of repentance and baptism in water by immersion showing forth the death and resurrection of the son of God Calling upon the nations by the voice of this Priesthood and this power which you have received by promises to your Fathers which have come down in lineage to you upon your head by the order and providence of God and Sealed upon your head by mine hands The day shall come when your mind shall be ~~stirred~~ strong in consequence of the power of truth which shall quicken your intellectual powers with all the gifts and graces you shall receive which give wisdom and knowledge by which your Judgment shall be informed and the mysteries of God are manifested to you and if you seek it with all your heart you shall be delivered from danger and evils which are common in the Proclamation of the Gospel that you may escape them for Angels shall guard and protect you and your days shall be many and your head shall blossom with age and be silvered over and be crowned with immortality and eternal life even so Amen

R B Thompson scribe

Esaias Edwards Patriarchal Blessing

By Hyrum Smith Recorded in John Smiths

Patriarchal Book Book [-] Pages

114 - 115 and 116 and Number 2 55

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I now proceed to write a blessing Given to my Wife Elizabeth Campbell Edwards given to her by Hyrum Smith under the same date A Patriarchal blessing pronounced on the head of Elizabeth Edwards Daughter of Thomas and Sarah Campbell Born July 21st 1814 in Blount County Tennessee by Hyrum Smith Patriarch of the church of

Jesus Christ of Laterday Saints ~~Oct~~, Dec 1st 1840

Sister Edwards I lay my hands on upon your head in the Name of Jesus christ of Nathreth to Bless you with the Power which is given of God which is Called Patriarchal that you may receive a blessing which may ~~remain~~ be for your ~~Comfort~~ benefit and your Posterity to the latest generation this Blessing ~~which~~ Shal be attended with promises which Shal be fulfilled upon certain conditions and principles by which these things shal be fulfilled is the great principle and gift of agency which was inate and natural not only from the beginning of this Creation but before creation was made for the principle of formation was Sanctioned in the august presence of innumerable inteligences But because you have received the everlasting Covenant in these last days upon the principle of faith one of the grand principles of formation and power by which all things are held in store not only this but by which we live and move and have a being and by [-] which we shal triumph over death hell and the grave and receive dominion in the presence of the first and last the first because he was the first that valed himself in the flesh the last because he Subdueth all things under him by Jesus christ

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The name by which were called unto obedience by which name and power and principle that he assumes to himself to say that all flesh is in his hands by which reason I Seal you up unto eternal life and make unto you a promise which is called by me the second Comforter for your consolation that when you shal read these words you shal be comforted Joy and gladness shal spring up in your heart which shal stand as a witness to you for the truth of these sacred words many of the mysteries of God Shal be manifested to you and you shal reap the enjoyment of the blessings promisted on the head of your husband in common with him by which you may learn many of the mysteries of God Now if you seek it with all your heart which is asking fervantly you shal have honor in this life and long life and the name yourself and Husband shal be held in sacred rememberance to the latest generation and notwithstanding the tribulation of the Earth you shal rest in peace and shal be welcomed and crowned in the Resurrection of the Just Even So Amen

R B Thompson Scribe

Elizabeth Edwards Patriarchal Blessing

Given by Hiram Smith and recorded in

the Book of John Smith the Patriarch in

Book F Page 116 and 117 No 556

Sister Edwards I lay my hands upon your head in the name of Jesus Christ of Nathreth to bless you with the power is given of God w[ink blot]h is called Patriarchal that you may receive a blessing

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which may be for your comfort and your posterity to the latest generation this blessing shall be attended with promises which shall be fulfilled upon certain conditions and principles one principle by which these things shall be fulfilled is that great principle and gift of agency which was innate and natural not only from the beginning of this creation but before Creation was made for the principle of formation was sanctioned in the august presence of innumerable intelligences but because you have received the everlasting covenant in these last days upon the principle of faith one of the grand principles of formation and power by which all things are held in Store. not only this but by which we live move and have a being, and by which we shall triumph over death Hell and the grave and receive dominion in the presence of the first and the last the first because he was the first. Veiled himself in the flesh the last because he subdued all things under him by Jesus Christ the name by which you were called unto obedience by which name and power and principle that he assumes to himself to say that all flesh is in his hands by which reason I seal you up unto Eternal Life and make unto you a promise in which is called by me the second comforter for your consolation that when you shall read these words you be comforted Joy and gladness shall spring up in your heart which shall [-] stand as a witness to you for the truth of these sacred words [-] many of the mysteries of God shall be unfolded to you and you shall reap the enjoyments of the blessings promised on the head of your husband in common with him by which you learn many of the mysteries of God. now if you seek it with all your heart which is asking fervently you shall have honor in this life and long life and the name of yourself and Husband shall be had in

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sacred remembrance to the latest generation and notwithstanding the tribulation of the Earth you shall rest in Peace and shall be welcomed and crowned in the resurrection of the Just. Even So Amen
It seems that I have written my wife's Blessing down twice through a mistake but there is no harm in it
I will now proceed to write a Patriarchal Blessing given me
By John Smith in Saltlake City July the 8th 1850
A Blessing by John Smith Patriarch upon the head of Esaias Son of Andrew and Anna Edwards Born in Pike County State of Missouri April 10th 1812
Brother Esaias I Place my hands upon thy head in the authority which God hath given me and in the name of Jesus Christ I Seal upon you a patriarchal or a Fathers Blessing Inasmuch as you have experienced many sorrows and afflictions for the gospels Sake and have not faltered the Lord is well Please with the integrity of thine heart and thy name is recorded in the Book of the names of the sanctified and thou art a Lawful heir to the Priesthood which shall be conferred upon you in fullness in Due time for thou art of the house of Jacob and all Blessings shall be conferred upon to the Blessings of Abraham Isaac and Jacob The Lord hath Called thee to be a councillor in Zion in the Last Days and he hath given thee the privilege

to Preach the Gospel when ever and where ever it seemeth thee
Good He shal give thee wisdom to conduct the affairs that
Comes under thy Direction in Righteousness in the best
Possible way to accomplish the object your desires Thou
Shalt raise up a posterity in thine old age that shal be **honorable**

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Honorable in the house of Israel Thy name shal be
had in honerable remembrance amonst the **^Saints** forever and
thou shalt have Riches until thou art Satisfied
and Live to See the winding up sene of this generation
and enjoy all the Blessings **^of the** redeemers Kingdom
for ever and ever Amen

Recorded in Book F Page 114 No 253

X

I wil now proceed to write a Patriarchal Blessing given
by Isaac Morley in Toelle City Sept 30th 1856
Brother Edwards I place my hands upon thy head
by virtue of the Priesthood and I seal the Blesing of the
Fathers upon thee even the blessings Abraham Isac
and Jacob Thou art a desendant from the Patriarchal family
through the loins of Joseph whereby thou art are by
Covenant and by promise with the seed of Abraham
the intigrerity of thy heart has been set to serve the
Lord Neither hast thou sufferd thy mind to vary from
the true light of heaven Satan has oft set his mind
to Slay thee and to lead thy mind astray yet thy heart has
been set like an adamant to do right to preserve thy covenants
with thy guardian Angel has wached over thee for good
and remembered at all times and under all Circum[- -] nces
when the influence of heaven instructing thy mind to do
thy guardian Angel is near thee to bless you and to comfort you
thy heart this thou wil realize [-] more fully in a time to come
where unto the world of that spirit of peace and every wicked
influence wil flee away whom the Lord loves he chastises
that he may test the fidelity of the hearts of his servants
thy decendants is from a numerous posterity thou hast

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Come upon the Earth to become the restorer
of the Blessings of the holy ordinances thou shalt
possess that blessing and be like Joseph who was
sold into Egypt in redeeming thy Fathers household
thou Shant be blessed with the fruits of the earth and thou Shalt
have wine to cheer thy heart thy children shal be many
thy rest endless and I Seal thee up by the power of the
Priest hood to endless lives in the kingdom of God even so
Amen and Amen

Esaias Edwards Blessing

Recorded in Book E Page 43

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W there assembled and passed the day in harmony
by singing speaking praying hearing music danceing
feasting and sofor[-] I was called upon to make a speech on the
occasion of the Jubilee I responded and spoak with great
freedom to the edification of the Saints
I also read the following verses which I had composed
For the occasion for the edification of the Saints
When the world had long in darkness lay
The Lord revealed to man a better way
By calling Joseph Smith to be a Prophet Seer and revelator
And he obeyed the voice of his great Creator

And book of mormon to man was then revealed
Wich had for many long years been conceiled
By which the Lord by the power of his might
Brought forth to the world a great flood of light

~~In 1830 the L~~

In 1830 the Lord made to the world known
The mysterious visions of old Daniels little stone
Which was cut out of the mountain without hands
Which was to smile the image throuout all the lands

Til nomore of the kingdoms of the world could be found
By searching the whole world all around
But the Kingdom of God wil remain on the earth
Til the Saints wil not be troubled with any more dearth
But the land like the Garden of eden with plenty wil Bloom
Which wil afford to the Saints a most glorious home
For the long space of a thousand years or more
And their peace and Joy upon this earth wil be shure

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For Satan with great chains wil be bound
And wickedness wil no where any more be found
But on April the sixth this day fifty years ago
As I want the Laterday Saints all should know

The Church of Jesus Christ with six members was organized
The only true church which the Lord ever recognized
For all the rest had verry far astray
And had forsaken the ancient good old way

But the good seed which the Lord hath already sown
To a great plant hath now already grown
But through great persicutions and afflictions we have passed [^]through
And it has been all that that could possible do

To sustain ourselves for the last fifty years
Through affliction the Saints have shed many tears
But we have great reason to thank the Lord for his great powe
Which has been around the Saints like a mighty tower

Which has sustained us for the last fifty years
And has in many cases banished all our fears
And now we have assembled on this great day of Jubilee
As you and I and all the latterday Saints may see

To commemorate the great Sabatical on fiftieth year
The great rejoicings from all the Saints to hear
Now Brethren and sisters let us all rejoice and be glad
For there is no need for any of the Lords people to be sad

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Let us both eat and drink and in unity rejoice
And Praise the name of our god with our hearts and our voice
While we go forth in dances and songs and other recreations
And all the amusements of this last dispensation

Let us spend this great and memoral day with true love and esteem
For all that is good for all that is great as to us it may seem
Til our hearts shal be satisfied with the goodness of the Lord
And we return home to meditate upon the goodness of his word

September 1880

September 26, 1880

Sep 26th 1880

I wil now proceed to note passing events
It has been some length of time since I wrote last and there
has been considerable transpired But I wil Just say that
there has been nothing verry unusual taken place since
I wrote last we have had a verry warm dry summer and crops
have been injured considerable with drouth I have raised an
abundance of apples peaches plums grapes melons and
soforth and we are now verry buisy taking care of it
we have lately had a visit from my Son George W which
lives at Panacca Nevada he is doing pretty wel
and made is us some presents and we let him have lots
of fruit to take home with him Wile he was here
went into the Temple at ST george and administered
in the ordinances of salvation for the dead
I attended to the ordinances of washing and anointing
For my grand Father Thomas [^]Joshua Edwards
and my son george administered in the same for my Brother
Jonathan Edwards We then entered the sealing
room and I had the following names addoped to me

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the first was George Washington Edwards
the others was dead but was represented by certain
living persons that was chosen to act in their behalf
the first was Thomas Andrew Edwards which died in
Nauvoo the second was Luiza Jane died in Nauvoo
third Esaias Edwards died at Iowaville State of Ioway

fourth Julyan died in Toelly City Utaw Terrytory
fifth Armilda died in Toelly City Utaw Terrytory
Sixth Pollyann Edwards Gunnel died in Wellsville UT
Seventh Elizabeth Edwards Elsworth died in Franklin Idahoo
I have a good deal of work to do for my dead friends and
relatives which I expect to attend to the first opportunity
I have had my health verry wel since last Spring and
feel at present as if I mite live twenty years yet
But I dont know what a day wil bring forth
I walked yesterday betwen 25 and 30 miles and feel as
nimble to day as Common

November 1880

November 14, 1880

November 14th 1880

I again take my pen to record passing events
Since I wrote last I have had my health tolerable wel and have
been buisily engaged in taking care of my fruit coopering getting
wood and soforth I am now left alone with my wife Ann
Nutall her children being away from home a good part of
the time my Son Andrew has gone to Cash valley to spend
the winter with his Mother and go to School whether
he wil ever return or not I cant tel It looks as if my
children does not appreciate a Father verry much or they
would Come and live with me I have now four Sons roving over
the world which never write to me or send me a present or anything [^]else

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December 1880

December 5, 1880

Dec the 5th 1880

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events
since I rote last I have received a letter from Andrew
which informed me of his safe arrivel at Millville on the
7th day after he left here I also received a letter from my
Daughter Saryann which lived at Panguich which informed
me that she was about to start to move to Arizona which was
Something of a disappointment to me for I expected that she would
make me a visit before she left the country
I and my wife Ann is still along in Dimond valley
but we have lots of company from the travel along the
road a great many stoping over night Our fruit crop
has turned out tolerable wel last season and we have a
tolerable good sale for it so that we have at present a tolerable
good living the winter has set in colder this winter than it was
ever know for the time of the year but is moderating a little now

December 26, 1880

Dec 26th I again take my pen in hand to note
passing events Since I rote last the wether has been moderating
all the time it has been raining a little for several days and is still

Cloudy The quarterly Conferance of the 18th and 19th which was wel attended and y my wife was there she says they had a good time and she enjoyed herself firstrate The Presidential Election that has created so much excite for the last year has among the People of the united states has come off and resulted in the electing of Mr Garfield for President of the United States and the excitement and expected trouble has pased off and all appears to be peace and prosperity at present among the nation at present while the church of Jesus Christ is prospered and is still becoming more united Me and my wife Ann passed the Christmas alone

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1881

February 1881

February 1, 1881

Feb 1st 1881

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events We still have peace and prosperity there has nothing un common transpired since I rote last. I have received a letter from My Son Andrew and he is getting along tolerable wel liveing with his Mother and going to School in Millville and his Mother and all the children in wel as far as he knows. My Grandson Samuel Esaias Algar had come with his family to live in Dimond Valley and they have a smart little buoy names Woodruff which is a gooddeal of comfort to us. The weather has been fine with some rain which makes us hope for a good crop season

March 1881

March 14, 1881

March 14th 1881 I now write down a few more passing events We have had a tolerable faverable winter thus far and are ful of anticipation for a good crop season. night before last we had a warm snow of about six inches depth which wil in addition to what we have had through the winter wet the ground to a greater depth than it has been for several winters and cannot fail to producee a good effect as to the growing of grass on the range and also on the Crops of all kinds of fruit and vegetation and grain potatoes &c We still continue to have a good comfortable living the sale of four fruit wine and hay has been our principal in come and the prospect for this season is good so far. I think of making an addition to my house this coming season. My Son Andrew has written me an other letter and he thinks of comming home this Spring and if he does I wil be verry glad for I kneed his help verry much I have written a letter to him and to my other three sons that left me several years ago and invited them to send me a present to assist me in building me a house. Thinking it would be a good oppourtunity for them to do some little towards recompenceing me for giving them a being in this world and raising them til they could

take care of themselves

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April 1881

April 10, 1881

April the 10th 1881

I now take my pen in hand to note passing events
This appears to be my birth day Sixty nine years ago I was born
in Pike County in the State of Missouri. And I feel
Truly thankful to My Heavenly Father for his Kind and watchful
Care which he has exercised to wards me ever since I have had a being
in Mortality For truly my life has been maraculously preserved by
the power of God my Heavenly Father in times and ways allmost
without number. Another year if I should live that long wil bring
me to the age that is allotted to man. But I feel as though I might live
several years yet if I am not taken away by sickness or accident
And if my life should be spared I hope that I wil have the power and
ability to do a great deal more good and bring about more righteousness
than I ever have done in the same lengh of time in my life. For the longer
I live in mortality the greater my desire is to be useful to my fellow creatures
My understanding is being enlarged continually. And my mind has been
lit up by the Spirit of God of late years much more than in former years
And I have been made to rejoice under the influence of the Same almost
continually
on the 17th of march I went into the Temple of the Lord and was addopted
to Wilford Woodruff to be numbered in his family according to the order
of the Priesthood. Perhaps a few words in poetry wil not come amiss
This day I was born in the state of Missouri Pike County 69 years ago
Since that time have lived on this Earth as you all may know
And have seen many trials troubles and s[-]ns of great vexation
Which I have been Called to pass through in this Great dispensation
But the Lord has sustained me and enabled me to pass through them all
For I have endeavoured to be obedient to come and go at every Call
And allway befound striving to do all things that was right
In the best way I could and endeavoured to do with all my might

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May 1881

May 22, 1881

May 22d 1881

I again take my pen in hand to note a few passing events
There has not any thing verry unusul transpired since I rote
last we have had an unusal favorable spring for raising crops
of all kinds through ought the Southern country and also through
the whole Terrytory for which we aught to be verry thankful
I have at present a better prospect for raising a living on my place
than I ever had I have been verry buisy planting and looking

and looking after my orchard vineyard and so fourth my Son Andrew has not been here to help me any But my wife Ann has ben on hand to help when ever I kneeded help and has saved me from doing a good deal of labour we have Just finished cutting our lucern which has turned out pretty wel our grapes looks remarkable wel I went north to Pine valley a few days ago and took some melasses and cider to sell and obtained flour enough to do us til harvest. We now have plenty of food and raiment to last us for some time and I think of trying to build or enlarge my house this summer and fall But I have rather scanty of means as yet I rote last winter to my sons Isaac david and Zebulon to send me a little present to assist me in building but I have never heard a word from them yet except David he wrote to me from St Joseph arizona and told me that if he could get some mony that he would send me some and I believe that David wil send me some if he can But as for the others I dont know anything about they have never written to me since they left I believe that if Andrew could get money enough to pay his way on the railroad that he would come and help me But I dont believe his mother wil try to help him to get the money and perhaps I shal never have his help any more If I dont I wil have to do without it seems to be my lot to be left alone in my old age but I wil try to bear it with patience for the present

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July 1881

July 8, 1881

July the 8th 1881

I now take my pen in hand to note passing events My eyes stil keeps sore and they are now so dim that it is with great difficulty that I can see how to write But I still hope they wil get better for I have a great deal of writing to do my eyes has been afflicted nearly four years and owing to me being forsaken by my children I have been obliged to work out in the sun and wind they are getting worse I have a great deal of writing that I wish to do yet and I hope that my eyes wil get better so that I wil be able to accomplish my desighn in that respect. Both myself and family has enjoy tolerable health since I rote last. the weather is verry warm and weakning at present and the drouth is verry sevier at present the Springs is the lowest that I ever seen them but in consequence of a wet winter the grass is better than it has been for several years stock is doind wel and we have plenty of milk to make us comfortable our grapes is doing verry wel at present our peaches is bearing wel but the scarcity of water wil injure them considerable the other fruit is not doing so wel the lucern wil not be but verry poor after this allmost a failure. I have not heard a word from any of my children since I wrote and I expect that I shal have to gave up building at present

October 1881

October 2, 1881

Oct 2d 1881

I again take my pen in hand to note passing events There has nothing happened

since I rote last except our or my wifes Daughter Mary Robeson was Married on the 10th of September to a young Man by the name of ~~Willi~~ William Laub. we have got the most of our fruit taken care of it turned out out tolerable wel especially the grapes My eyes is still sore But other ways we have enjoyed tolerable good health we have had no word from any of our Children yet the drough continues yet

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I have received in the Deseret news an interview had by a reporter of a newspaper called the Kansas city Journal and David Whitmore one of the witnesses of the book of mormon Which I am going to note down in my Biogrephy for the benefit of my posterity and others that may wish to enquire into the truth of the origin of the book of mormon Which commences as follows: Authentic account of the ~~book~~ of Origin of this set from one of the Patriarchs. Discovery of the Plates And the translation of the Book of Mormon From the kansas City Journal June the fifth 1881 which commen ces as follows In view of the large Mormon emigration that is now pouring into this country and also in view of the difficulties that have heretofore existed between that sect and the people Jackson County the Journal has taken the trouble to ascertain as to the origin of the sect as wel as the history of their expul tion from Jackson County in 1833 The translation of the book is said to have been by eight persons as follows Martin Harris David Whitmore Oliver Cowdry Christian Whitmore ~~^Hiram~~ Page Jacob Whitmore Joseph Smith sen Peter Whitmore John Whitmore Hyrum Smith and Samuel H Smith all of whomb except David Witmore are long since dead David Whitmore the only living witness has resided since 1830 in Richmond Ray County Missouri. And the Journal dispatched a reporter to richmond to interview the last of the eleven the reporter called at the residence of Mr Whitmore and found him resting himself in an invalids chair looking verry pale having Just recovered from a spel of sickness. after introducing himself the reporter opened the conversation as follows Mr Whitmore knowing that you are the only living witness to the translation of the book of mormon and also that you were a resident of Jackson County

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during the mormon troubles in 1833 I have been sent to you by the Journal to get from your lips the true statement of facts in regard to these matters fo nearly half a century the world has had but one side only and it is now our desire to present to our readers for the first time the other side Young man you are right I am the only living witness to the book of mormon but I have been imposed upon and misrepresented so many times by persons claiming to bee honorable newspaper men that I feel a delicacy in allowing my name to come before the public in

newspapers print again." I am sorry here the But I promise you that we shall only give your statement as you make it and will not misrepresent you in any manner". after a few other remarks of the same tenor the reporter at last induced the Patriarch to furnish the desired facts which he did in the following language: But I will here omit considerable conversation which took place at that time concerning D. Whitmores biography and how he was led to believe the testimony of others concerning the matter and commence where he became associated with Joseph and others in the translation of the book of mormon "The next day after I got there they packed up the plates and we proceeded on our Journey to my Fathers house where we arrived in due time and the day after we commenced upon the translation of the remainder of the plates. I as well as all of my Fathers family Smiths wife Oliver Cowdry and Martin Harris was present during the translation The translation was by Smith. In the manner as follows He had two small stones of a chocolate colour nearly egg shape and perfectly smooth but not transparent called interpreters which were given him with the plates. He did not use the plates in the translation but would the interpreters to his eyes

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and cover his face with a hat excluding all light and before his eyes would appear what seemed to be parchment or which would appear what seemed to be parchment on which would appear the characters of the plates in a line at the top and immediately below would appear ~~what seemed~~ the translation in english Smith would read to his scribe who wrote it down exactly as it fell from his lips. The scribe would then read the sentence written and if any mistake had been made the characters would remain visible to Smith until corrected when they faded from sight to be replaced by an other line. The translation at my Fathers occupied about one month That is from June the first till July the first 1829" Reporter= were the plates under the immediate control of Smith all the time." answer= "no they were not I will explain how that was When Joseph first received the plates he translated 116 pages of the book of lehi with Martin Harris as scribe when this had been completed they rested a while and Harris wanted to take the manuscript home with him to show to his family and friends to this Joseph objected but finally asked the Lord if Harris might be allowed to take it. The answer was no Harris teased Joseph for a long time and finally persuaded him to ask the Lord a second time pledging himself to be responsible for the safe keeping to this second enquiry the Lord told Joseph Harris might take the manuscript which he did showing it to a great many people but through some carelessness allowed it to be stolen from him. This incurred the Lords displeasure and he sent an angel to Joseph demanding the plates and until Joseph had thoroughly repented of his transgression would not allow him to have the use of them again When Joseph was again allowed to resume the translation the plates the plates were taken care of by a messenger of God. And when Joseph wanted to see the plates this messenger was always at hand The 116 pages of the book of Lehi which were stolen were never ~~recovered~~

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nor would the Lord permit Joseph to make a second translation of it A few months after the translation was completed that is in the spring of 1830 Joseph had the book published and this showing a well worn volume is a copy of the first edition which I have had in my possession ever since it was printed. reporter when did you see the plates. It was the later part of June 1829 Joseph Oliver Cowdry and Myself were together and the Angel Showed them to us we not only saw the plates of the book of mormon but he also showed us the brass plates of the book of Ether and many others. they were shown to us in this way Joseph and Oliver and I were sitting on a log. When we were overshadowed by a light more glorious than that of the sun in the midst of this light but a few feet from us appeared a table upon which were many golden plates also the sword of Laban and the director I saw them as plain as I see you now and distinctly heard the voice of the Lord declaring that the record of the plates of the Book of mormon were translated by the gift and power of God (reporter) (Who else saw the plates at the same time) no one Martin Harris the [^]and other witness saw them the same day and the eight witnesses Christian Whitmore. Hiram Page Jacob Whitmore Joseph Smith Sen. Peter whitmore Hiram Smith. John Whitmore. and Samuel H Smith Saw them next day (reporter) (Did you see the messenger) yes he stood before us. our testimony as recorded in the book of mormon is absolutely true Just as it is written there (reporter) (can you describe the plates) They appeared to be of gold about 6 by 9 inches in size about as thick as parchment a great many in number and bound together like the leaves of a book by massive rings passing through the back edges The engraving upon them were very plain and of very curious appearance Smith made facsimiles and sent them by Martin Harris to professor Anson and Michel

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of New York City for examination they pronounced reformed Egyptian but were unable to read them (reporter) (did Joseph Smith ever relate to you the circumstance of finding the plates) Yes he told me that he first found the plates in the early spring of 1823 that during the fall of 1827 he had a vision an angel appearing to him three times in one night and telling him that there was a record of an ancient people deposited in a hill near his Father's house called by the ancients Cumorah situated in the township of Manchester Ontario County New York. X The angel pointed out the exact spot and some time after he went and found the records or plates deposited in a stone box in the hill Just as had been described by the Angel it was however [^]some time before the Angel would allow Smith to remove the plates from their place of deposit (reporter) (when was the church first established) we had preaching during the time the book was being translated But our Church was not regularly organized till after the book was printed in the year [^]winter of 1829-30. The first organization was in Seneca County New York under the name of the Church of Christ. The first Elders were Joseph Smith. Oliver Cowdry. Martin Harris. Hiram Smith John Whitmore. Peter Whitmore and myself on the sixth of April

in the year 1830 the church was called to gether and the elders
acknowledged according to the Laws of Newyork
I wil let this much of the interview suffice for it wil answer
my present purpose but the remainder is full of interest to
them that has not red the history of the early persecutions
of the church but do not design to write much in this book
except my own Biography

November 1881

November 12, 1881

November 12th 1881 I now write a few lines in my Biography
We are all enjoying tolerable health at present my eyes still
keeps sore we have got through with taking care of our fruit our
wine turned out tolerable wel. My son Andrew has returned home
from Cash valley I have also received a letter from Frank Sadlier
they are all wel and doing wel

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1882

April 1882

April 10, 1882

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I now write a few more lines in my Byography
April the 10th 1882 I am This day 70 years old
according to my Fathers record It seems to be the age that
has been allotted to Man by our Heavenly Father
But their has been many that has outlived that age both in
ancient and modern times and it seems to be according to their natural
constitution or their habits of living For my part I never was
of a hardy constitution since I arrived to manhood But a few years
after I become a man and had the care of a family I began to steady the
Laws of life and after I had united with the Church of Jesus Christ
of the Laterday Saints I received additional light by reading
what is called the word of wisdom which was given by the Lord
through Joseph Smith For the benefit of the Church or for
their temporal Salvation that they by living up to the instruction
and direction contained in it might live a long life and a happy
one That they also might have health in their navel and marrow
in their bones and that they might run and not faint walk and
not be weary and also that that those lived according to the directions
given there and kept the commandments of the Lord Should have
wisdom given to them and great treasures of knowledge even hidden
treasures of knowledge. Now I do not wish to boast of any
thing that I have done nor of the attainments which I have received
or the blessings which I have secured by endeavouring to live
by the instructions which I have received by trying in my hum
ble way to keep the commandments of my Heavenly Father
For I have done no more than my duty and more than that I have
not lived near up to my privileges And have fallen far short
of doing my duty in many respects towards my Heavenly Father

and perhaps to my fellow men and my family But in a general way I have done to the best I knew how according to the circumstances in which I have been placed

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Now what is the reward that I have received for taking the course that I have in endeavouring to live in accordance with the word of wisdom and also trying to keep the commandments of the Lord I can truly say that I have received all that the Lord promised and I truly feel satisfied with the Goodness of the Lord I have been attacked with many kinds of diseases being naturly of a weakly constitution But by Faith and prayer and endeavouring to keep the commandments of God and living according to the Laws of life My boddy has been im[-----]ted and it appears to me that I might as wel live 20 years yet Just as wel as not But I do not wish to boast for I do not know what a day may bring forth But there is one thing that I do know that I feel as young [page torn] nd full of life as I did five years ago and there is not many young men that wil walk to St george and back with greater ease a distance of 12 miles than I can But as for the wisdom and great treasures of knowledg I can testify that I have received far greater than I ever anticipated For my mind ~~hand~~ has been enlitened and my underStanding has been enlarged and my comprehension has been expanded far greater than I ever anticipated But I find that there is nothing impossible with God our Heavenly Father. My mind has been led on the organisa tion of this Earth and also the organization of the solar system how the plannets was organized and all the differen Changes they have passed through from the time of the Commencement until they shal arrive to a state of perfection and are permitted with their inhabitants to enter in to Celestial Glory into the presence of the Father and the Son I have written a book Concerning these things which I expect to have printed when I can get means enough

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I have truly passed through many various scenes and have been tried to the uttermost in almost every condition and circumstance which mortality can indure But I have done the best that I knew how as a general thing and the Lord has delivered me out of them all thus far and I wil put my trust in for the remainder of my life while I dwel in mor^atality Now a few words upon passing events We have had tolerable health since I wrote last My Wife Ans Daughter Mary was married to a young man by the name of William Laub and has had a little Daughter which is now about three months old and my wife Ann thinks that it is the prettyest and smartest little baby that she ever saw We are now getting along tolerable wel as far as food and raiment is concerned it is a verry dry time now and the prospect is not verry good for fruit this season. There has been Great exitement in the states and the city of Washington thr [page torn]

the winter about the saints They [^]say that Poligamy must be [page torn]
down at all hazzards They have been passing unconstitutional
laws to get some way to use us up but we have no fears for
we trust in our God

May 1882

May 6, 1882

May the 6th 1882 I again take my pen in hand to note passing
events The laws that congress has passed dont suit a great many of the
people of the United States some is in favour of a crusade against
the Saints any how some is in favrou of more mild means they have been
a great deal of writing and contrountosy among the people the President
has not sent on his officers yet to execute the new laws on the election
matters and when they come I presume they wil not be able to distress
the Saints verry much at any rate we are not any afraid of
them There has been a Cold backward Spring the fruit
has been partly killed except the grapes they seem to be doing
tolerable wel at present But the droughth wil be verry severe

Notes

- [1] This document (Number 1) consists of two loose pages written in pencil.
- [2] This is a letter written in dark ink.
- [3] This is in the same format as the letter above.
- [4] The following sentence is written up the left margin of the page at this point.
- [5] This page has a dark stain of some kind located at the top and going through the first seven lines of the text.
- [6] The following line is written up the left margin at this point.
- [7] The following word is written up the left margin.
- [8] The following word is written up the left margin.
- [9] The following word is written up the left margin.
- [10] The following is an addition written between the lines.
- [11] The following phrase is written up the left margin.
- [12] This is the sixth document which follows the first five of Edwards=
writings. It consists of loose pages that are very tattered and torn.
- [13] Pages 33 and 34 are blank or were skipped by the author.
- [14] The following text has a large X through it.
- [15] The top left corner of this page is covered with a black ink blot. In the lower center of the page is a stain which obstructs the text in some areas.
- [16] The top right corner of this page is covered with a black ink blot. There are stains on the lower half of the page which obstructs some of the text.
- [17] There is a huge ink blot over most of the upper half of the page which obstructs much of the text.