

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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[page 1]

## 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.

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[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

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[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

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[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

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[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

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[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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[page 4]

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 sarrecticy 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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8

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<sup>^</sup>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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13

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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15

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 spo  
ken of is not all that I have written  
I have written a work on the preserv  
ation 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 liveing to be a hundred years old  
and never need a doctor unles you  
get a bone brok 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. Wel 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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16

All my Fathers household to  
come and become associated with me  
in a community. So that we can in  
struct each other, not that I expect to  
interfear with any persons religious belief  
but to seek out thruth that pertains to both  
temporal and spiritual matters. But espe  
cially to live with economy to secure the  
blessings that pertains to this mortal life  
for that is the thing which more immedi  
ately concerns us now for we ex a great  
famine before long and buy 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 wil suit any better than the  
place where I live. I expect to go north to  
Welsville in Cash County pretty seon to tend  
to buisness. But wil be at home through the  
winter and if any person wished to comm[-----]  
with me on the subject you can write to me to  
Welsville til fall and then I expect to be at  
home in Southern Utah my post office address

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[page 1]

# 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 <sup>^</sup>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

[4]

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<sup>^</sup>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<sup>^</sup>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 combustibile

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 <sup>^</sup>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<sup>^</sup>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<sup>^</sup>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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8

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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9

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 <sup>^</sup>God our  
Father

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11

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<sup>^</sup>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<sup>^</sup>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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12  
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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13  
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<sup>phere</sup> contains all the gasses that all embodiments is composed of what we call the atmosphere is a concentra tion of the etherial 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

~~An~~ As for mars it is verry easy to be understood that it has an at mosphere or there could be no <sup>^</sup>sn<sup>ow</sup> seen on or near her poles which appears

[10]

<sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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

[11]

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 <sup>else</sup>

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<sup>al</sup> 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 <sup>ten</sup> 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<sup>re</sup>  
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 <sup>what</sup> 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 itself 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 astronomer 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 <sup>^</sup>years

Uranus appears to be attended with six satellites. The satellites of Uranus differ in ~~one~~<sup>two</sup> 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 have 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 <sup>^</sup>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<sup>^</sup>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

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[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 commenced 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

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## 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 privaledge 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 6]

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 Mississippi 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 7]

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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>been healed from her pains by the power of God ~~by~~<sup>^</sup>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 dspersed 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 drean 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 15]

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 recovere [-] 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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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<sup>^</sup>[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<sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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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38

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 <sup>^</sup>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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39  
Now let us rejoice give thanks and sing  
to our leader our God and our king

For to them all praise thanksgiving <sup>^</sup>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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40

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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41

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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43

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 Tooke 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 <sup>above</sup> ~~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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46  
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<sup>nt</sup>  
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<sup>sure</sup>  
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<sup>pt</sup>  
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 confarence 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<sup>ood</sup>  
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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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 <sup>^</sup>the privilege  
of of building a mill above mine on the conditi<sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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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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 <sup>^</sup>Kane  
we had a standing army organized of about  
fifteen hundred well armed and equipped  
for the service they were principally young  
men my son George making one of the  
number And after Colonel Kane had  
assured Comens that he would be protected  
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 well 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 advised all of the saints to stop sowing seed  
and remove south as far as Utah County where  
we could the better protect ourselves from our  
enemies for the Indians had also become very  
hostile

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And so we continued to move till all the north part  
of the territory was made desolate except a very  
few young men which was left to water the grain  
it was the calculation if the soldiers attempted to force  
themselves in the settlements without our consent  
to apply the torch to all our improvements so that  
they could not possess them we removed the most  
of our household furniture our stock and provisions  
I removed my sawmill irons to Lehigh where my  
family stopped 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 <sup>^</sup>comitty come which had  
been sent by the president accompanied  
by a proclamation offering a full and full  
pardon of all our transgressions after accus-  
ing us falsely of a great many things  
After having a conference of about two days it was  
agreed that there should be peace But the com-  
mity insisted that the army should come in and  
march through the streets of G S L City  
Which was consented to But Brother Brigham<sup>^</sup>  
advised the Saints not to return to their homes  
until the army had passed 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 families and some of their associa-  
tes left Provo in Utah 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<sup>ae</sup>  
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 <sup>an</sup> 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<sup>ing</sup> 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<sup>tion</sup> 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 seems  
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  
within 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 Oregon  
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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## 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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 rote 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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## 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 <sup>^</sup>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 neglence  
[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 adecision that  
[ink blot]all their preceedings has been unlawful and have  
received a telegraph dispach to set all the prisnors  
free but they refused to do so til further orders  
we have a had a hard winter and a late spring it is  
yet coald 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 liveing 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  
verry dull and at present I do not know how I am to  
get a liveing til harvest But I know the way wil  
open But I know the way wil open somehow for I  
expect to do my duties [-] Sixty years old on  
the 10th day of this month [-] feel almost as as I have  
for 25 years Emmy Jane Sadlier 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 wil 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 wil 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 me [ink blot]  
of my family My little Daughter Caroline died M [ink blot]  
1872 which was born May the 11th [ink blot] 863  
verry Sudenly whle 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 toled 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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 eleventh last December

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## 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 <sup>^</sup>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 excepted 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 me 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 <sup>^</sup>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 coud 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 wor king 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 verry 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 verry 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 <sup>asa</sup> 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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>lineage you and your posterity Shal receive an inheritance You are entitled to the Holy Priesthood Which is after the Order of Melchesideck 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 righteous 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

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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 Salt Lake 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 Father's 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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122

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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>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 design 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. Wilmores 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 <sup>^</sup>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 my the ancients Cumory 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 <sup>^</sup>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 <sup>^</sup>winter of 1829-30. The first organization was in Seneca County New York under the name of the Church of Christ. The first Elders was 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<sup>a</sup>tality 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 <sup>^</sup>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.