

FACTS ADDED

OWEN FAMILY

A family sketch of the OWEN family was published in *Fayette Facts*, Vol. 4 No. 3. We have recently received information from a descendant, Shannon Rathbun, 2679 South Canal Rd., Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 that updates what was previously known about this family.

His information is drawn from "Owen Family Records" published 1929 in Philadelphia, PA by J. Montgomery SEAVER and from Personal Archives of Dan MORELOCK of Ballinger, TX.

Mr. Rathbun has begun the family with Robert OWEN b 1657 Fron Goch, Merionethshire, Wales and died 8 Oct 1867 in Philadelphia Co., PA. He m Rebecca HUMPHREY ca 1678, she the dau of Owen HUMPHREY. Rebecca was born 1658 Llwyndu Parish, Montgomeryshire, Wales and died in Philadelphia, 23 Aug 1697.

CHILDREN OF ROBERT AND REBECCA HUMPHREY OWEN

1. Evan OWEN b 1682, Fron Goch, Merionethshire, Wales m 10 Nov 1711 Hoskins, Philadelphia Co., PA.
2. Jane OWEN b 1685, same m Jonathan COPPOCK, 3 Jan 1707/8, Philadelphia Co, PA
3. Rebecca OWEN b 14 Jan 1685/6, same
4. Elizabeth OWEN b 1687, same
5. Gainor OWEN b 26 Oct 1688 Radnor, Chester Co., PA
6. Owen OWEN b 21 Dec 1690 Merion, Philadelphia Co., PA d 1741 Chester Co., PA m 23 Mar 1713/14 1) Anne WOOD she b ca 1694 Philadelphia Co., PA m 2) 24 Oct 1722 same, Katherine LEWIS she b 1691 Northhampton Co., PA. He was a Sheriff in Philadelphia Co.
7. John OWEN b 26 Dec 1692 same
8. Robert OWEN, Jr. b 17 Jul 1695, same

The Fayette County OWEN family comes through the line of OWEN OWEN and his second wife, Katherine LEWIS.

CHILDREN OF OWEN and Anne WOOD OWEN

1. Robert OWEN b ca 1716 Merion, Philadelphia Co., PA

SEMINARY SCHOOL

SEMINARY SCHOOL PUPILS

1877

ARNEY, Jesse
ASHLEY, John
CLARK, Joseph
BROWNING, John
BONE, Ann Nancy
DANIEL, C.W.
DANIEL, James
DANIEL, Henry
EVANS, Horatio
GREEN, Frank
INMAN, B. James
JACKSON, M.A.
JEFFS, Isaac
KOONCE, Alex

MATTENLEE, M.C.
MORGAN, D.L.
NIXON, Joseph
REESE, Luvincia
SATTERLEE, F.B.
SMITH, William
SHARP, Lutisha
STONE, Ann Mary
SHARP, Joseph
SWARM, John
THOMPSON, John
TEDRICK, Lesibith
TEDRICK, Alvin
YARBROUGH, John

1895

ALLEN, William
CRUMBAUGH, W.H.
CUNNINGHAM, Charles
CAUSEY, William
DANIEL, James
EAKIN, William
EVANS, Horatio
ELLCOTT, James
HOUSTON, Alfred
JEFFS, Isaac, Sr.
JEFFS, Isaac, Jr.

JEFFS, Samuel
JACKSON, Aaron
NEILSON, O.
NIXON, Jesse
SATTERLEE, W.H.
SATTERLEE, Ben
SMITH, William
SMITH, Jeff
TAYLOR, J.C.
TEDRICK, James
THOMPSON, Robert

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2. Jane OWEN b ca 1720 same, m 22 Jan 1760 Philadelphia Co., PA, Caldwellader EVANS, he b 27 Oct 1716 Gwynedd, Montgomery Co., PA.
3. Sarah OWEN b ca 1717 same, m 3 Mar 1735/6 John BIDDLE, he b ca 1715 Philadelphia Co., PA.
4. Tracy OWEN b ca 1723, same
5. Rebecca OWEN b ca 1726, same

CHILDREN OF OWEN OWEN and KATHERINE LEWIS

6. **David OWEN, Sr.** b 13 Mar 1712/3 Philadelphia, Northampton Co., PA d 15 June 1790 Upper Saucon, Northampton Co., PA m ca 1740 Sarah SCHMETZER, she b 1 Mar 1712/3 PA d 13 Apr 1792 Upper Saucon, PA.

David served as a Pvt. 5th class with the 5th Co., 1st Battn. Northampton County Militia in June, 1777 and appears on the D.A.R. Patriot List.

7. Margaret OWEN b 1715, same, m ca 1735 Richard THOMAS he b ca 1715
8. Thomas OWEN b 1723, same m 13 Apr 1744 Sarah BROWN, she b ca 1720.

CHILDREN OF DAVID and SARAH SCHMETZER OWEN

1. Rachel OWEN b 1744 Upper Saucon Twp., Northampton Co., PA d 10 Aug 1823 Sullivan Co., TN.
2. Thomas OWEN b 1746 same d before 1786
3. David Owen Jr. b 1748 PA
4. Joseph OWEN b 1749 Allegheny Co., PA
5. Jonathan OWEN b 1750 same m ca 1770 Susan B. HARTSELL she b 1750
6. Mary OWEN b 1756 PA m 1776 William GROTHOUSE
7. Sarah OWEN b 1758 PA m 1780 Jonathan SCOTT he b 1758.
8. Abigail OWEN b 1760 PA m 1780 Jacob ZIEGLERFUSS he b ca 1760.
9. Lydia OWEN b 1762 PA m ca 1780 Henry WEBER he b 1760.
10. Jesse OWEN b 1764 PA

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11. Elizabeth OWEN b ca 1865 PA m 1795 Abraham SNEIDER he b ca 1765.
12. **Nathan OWEN** b 1768/9 in Northampton Co., PA d 19 Jan 1811 Fairfield Co., OH married there ca 1795 Leah HARTZELL, she b 14 Jul 1774, dying in Marion County, Ohio, 2 Feb 1861, bu Owen-Plotner Cem. her marriage to Nathan was her second. She m 1) John McCONKEY December, 1812 Fairfield Co., OH. Several of their children, including daughter Mary WORKMAN and Leah's son George Washington McCONKEY also came to Fayette County with the OWEN children.

GENERATION I IN FAYETTE COUNTY

CHILDREN OF NATHAN and LEAH HARTZELL OWEN
(**Bolded** children came to Fayette County)

1. David OWEN b ca 1795 OH, no further information
2. **James OWEN** b 18 Nov 1796 d 14 Oct 1875, bu Yolton Cem., Fayette Co., IL. He m 2 Apr 1821 Fairfield Co., OH Nancy BRASHARES (BRASHEARS), the dau of Nathan and Elizabeth SCHIDENHELM BRASHEARS. This family came to Fayette County in 1841. James was a soldier in the War of 1812, enlisting 30 Aug 1814 in Capt. Spangler's Co., discharged 7 Jan 1815. He applied for bounty land in Fayette Co., IL.
3. William M. OWEN b 1 Apr 1798 Fairfield Co., OH d 9 Mar 1874 Claridon, Marion Co., OH m 1) 29 Mar 1833, same, Serean (Serene) YARNAY, she b ca 1798 d ca 1836. He m 2) Sarah Ann WILLIAMS, 8 June 1837 also in Marion Co., OH. William is buried with Serean in Owen-Plotner Cem., Claridon, Marion Co., OH.
4. Mary Jane OWEN b ca 1800 OH d 9 Dec 1845 Fayette Co., IL m Isaac WORKMAN who died 22 Aug 1845. See *Fayette Facts*, Vol. 4 #3 for more info on WORKMAN family.
5. Charles OWEN b 22 Nov 1803 Fairfield Co., OH d 6 Sep 1877 Claridon, Marion Co., OH m 29 Apr 1827 Fairfield Co, OH, Esther BRASHARES (BRASHEARS). Both are bu in Owen-Plotner Cem., Claridon, Marion Co., OH.
6. Jesse OWEN b ca 1806 OH m ca 1835 Barbara HOFFMAN, she b ca 1818. There appear on the 1850 Census, Claridon, Marion Co., OH.
7. Reuben OWEN b ca 1809 OH

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8. **Nathan C. OWEN, Jr.** b 22 Jan 1805 Fairfield Co., OH d 23 Aug 1868 Fayette Co., IL bu in Fairview Cem., there, m 1) 26 Aug 1832 Marion Co., OH Catherine BRASHEARS, dau of Nathan and Elizabeth SCHIDENHELM BRASHEARS. Catherine was born 1810 Frederick Co., MD, dying after 1835 and is bu at Amanda, Fairfield Co., OH. Nathan m 2) 1839 Fayette Co., IL Mary Ann GRIFFITH, the License issued 13 Apr 1839.
9. George OWEN b 1812 OH
10. Sarah E. OWEN b ca 1813 OH m 4 Oct 1865 Claridon, Marion CO., OH Albert C. FLETCHER.
11. Rebecca E. OWEN b 31 Jan 1813 Fairfield Co., OH d 23 Dec 1860, Claridon, Marion Co., OH m 1 Nov 1860 Albert FLETCHER. Rebecca is bu in Owen-Plotner Cem., Claridon, Marion Co., OH.

GENERATION 2 IN FAYETTE COUNTY

CHILDREN OF JAMES AND NANCY ANN BRASHEARS OWEN

1. George Hartzell OWEN b 4 Jan 1822 d 18 Jan 1854 m Lucinda RALSTON she b 13 Aug 1828 d 1 Aug 1906.
 - A. John Wilson OWEN b 24 Feb 1850 d 23 Jan 1930 m Talitha Jane JACKSON she b 17 Mar 1862 d 22 Dec 1930.
 - B. Laurence OWEN b 27 Nov 1851 d 8 Aug 1852
 - C. Benjamin Franklin OWEN b 13 Jul 1853 d 14 May 1914 Maryville, MO m Electa MILLER she b 10 Feb 1857.
 - D. Laura Alice OWEN b 21 Jan 1855 d 1 Jul 1939 Ayres "Arch" MILLER he b 18 Dec 1849 d 26 Jan 1934 lived Loudon Twp.
 - E. Mary OWEN b 2 Feb 1857 d 22 May 1882 m 2 Sep 1881 Charles FLOWERS
 - F. Lucy OWEN b 4 Apr 1859 d 1 Nov 1936 bu St. Elmo m 18 Feb 1886 Maxie WATSON
 - G. Charles Oscar OWEN b 2 Feb 1861 d 25 Jan 1936 Mary Catherine ROWE CHURCHILL.
 - H. Sarah Elizabeth OWEN b 1 Oct 1862 d 9 Jun 1885 nm
 - I. Joseph Brinton OWEN b 26 Aug 1864 d 10 Feb 1950 li Orison, ID bu Grangeville, ID, nm

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- J. George Ralston OWEN b 8 Jun 1867 d 3 May 1950 m Susie SCHICK
K. David William OWEN b 12 Sep 1872 d 22 Jan 1962 Tampa, FL m Ada MAINLAND
she b 8 Mar 1875 d 28 Sep 1960. They lived to FL in 1911.
2. Esther OWEN b 10 May 1825 Lancaster, Fairfield Co., OH d 23 Jan 1905 Glenwood, IA m
Alonzo RICE in Fayette Co., left after 1870.
3. Anne OWEN b 17 Sep 1832 Marion Co., OH d 17 Feb 1911 bu Fairview Cem., m Lyman
SAPP he b 25 Sep 1832 Knox Co., OH d 17 Dec 1878 son of Charles and Elizabeth
MATHENEY SAPP.
4. Elizabeth OWEN m William PATTERSON, went to Missouri.
- A. Victoria PATTERSON
B. Mary PATTERSON
C. Clark PATTERSON
D. Ulysses PATTERSON
E. Ida PATTERSON
F. Anne PATTERSON
5. David Brashears OWEN b 16 Feb 1836 m 31 Dec 1858 Sarah Samantha MILLER dau
Benjamin and Elizabeth SMITH MILLER, she b 18 Mar 1839 Holmes CO., OH d 5 May
1927 Fayette Co., IL.
- A. Winfield OWEN b 27 Oct 1859 d 3 Feb 1948, St. Elmo m Emma VanHORN dau of
Isaac and Emmeline KITCHEN VanHORN.
B. Ben McClellan OWEN b 28 Dec 1862 d 25 Jul 1949 m Sarah Josephine SAPP she b
13 Jun 1866 d 26 Nov 1943.
C. Roxana OWEN b 10 May 1866 d 10 Mar 1967 m John C. DURBIN he b 24 Aug 1862
d 2 Aug 1925.
D. Mary Ellen Lucretia OWEN b 3 June 1871 d 7 Nov 1905 m Andrew TOWNSEND
son of Lewis and Mary Ann PATTERSON TOWNSEND.
E. James OWEN, lived with his parents, married and had a dau Kay OWEN.
F. David Brashears OWEN b 2 Nov 1875 d 19 May 1958 MO m Sarah STINEBRING,
no children.
G. Sarah Dallas OWEN b 21 May 1879 d 9 Jan 1942 m John LAYMAN son of James
and Sarah Ann _____ LAYMAN.

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6. Charlotte OWEN b 11 Aug 1843 Fayette Co., d 2 Jul 1870 m Henry KIEFER; had ch
Oscaretta and Truman KIEFER.
7. Leah OWEN died in Ohio, age 14.
8. Mary OWEN died 11 Feb 18__ age 3y 5m bu Yolton Cem.

CHILDREN OF NATHAN C. and CATHERINE BRASHEARS OWEN

1. Clarissa OWEN m bef 1850 _____ SAWYER. Lived near Danville, IL had a large family.
2. Nathan OWEN b ca 1831 OH m in St. Louis, MO Tina _____.
3. Charles Nelson OWEN b 28 Apr 1833 OH d 20 Feb 1907 Fayette Co., IL m Isabelle
WELKER she b 1 June 1836 d 4 Mar 1904 bu Griffith Cem.

A. Clarissa OWEN m Marvin GRIFFITH

4. Catherine OWEN, apparently died young.

CHILDREN OF NATHAN C. and MARY ANN GRIFFITH OWEN

1. Leah OWEN b 2 Oct 1833 d 10 Feb 1906 m 1) William TAYLOR 2) William DAYHUFF
2. Eliza Jane OWEN b ca 1842 m 1) William DANIELS 2) Julius KEPPLER

A. William DANIELS

3. Mary OWEN b William C. WORKMAN
4. James F. OWEN b 1 Nov 1851 d 28 Oct 1881 bu Old Liberty m Elizabeth _____ who died
21 Nov 1879 age 30 years, no known descendants.
5. John F. OWEN according to Mrs. Katie Owen WHITEFORT, he was b ca 1860, died young.

FACTS ADDED AND CORRECTED

WORKMAN FAMILY

A sketch of the WORKMAN family was published in Fayette Facts, Vol. 4 No. 3 beginning page 61. Judy Workman, 110 1st St., SW, Apt. 4, Crosby, MN 56441 has provided additional information on William WORKMAN, son of Isaac and Mary OWEN WORKMAN.

The father of the WORKMAN family in Fayette County was Amos WORKMAN who was born between 1770-1780 presumably in Maryland. This family moved with the LOGUE, McKENZIE and LOGSDON families to Allegheny County, Maryland and soon after 1800 were in Ohio. From Ohio they came in a group to Fayette County, Illinois.

Known children of Amos WORKMAN were Isaac A., Joseph, Mary, Margaret, William, Israel, Lyman, Normanda and Abraham.

1. Isaac A. WORKMAN married Mary OWEN she b ca 1800 dau of Nathan and Leah HARTZELL OWEN. Two of Mary's brothers, Nathan and William C. and a half-brother, George McCONKEY all came to Fayette County. Isaac and Mary were parents of 9 children with William WORKMAN being the first born. It is his family that is being updated by this information.

A. William WORKMAN b ca 1821 d 22 May 1906 Villard, MN m 6 Apr 1848 Fayette Co., IL Harriet (Mary) ERNEST, she b ca 1826 PA, died after 1906. They appear on the 1850 Fayette County Census.

1. Artimicia WORKMAN b ca 1853 IL d 1944 m 1877 D.W. SHEER. They moved to Webster, S.D.

2. Solomon WORKMAN b 1856 IL d 17 Jan 1906 Villard, MN of TB m 1883, Elizabeth ELLIOT.

- a) Arthur WORKMAN b 1883 d 1904
- b) Lewis WORKMAN, was a minister, died in 1978
- c) George WORKMAN m 1910 Starbird BREWSTER
- d) Harold WORKMAN b 1897
- e) Lee WORKMAN
- f) Blanche WORKMAN

HISTORY OF SOME OF THE SEELEY OWEN FAMILY BY J. IRA EARL A NEPHEW OF SEELEY OWEN. J. IRA EARL'S MOTHER, LOIS CAROLINE OWEN EARL WAS THE SISTER OF LYDIA ANN OWEN, WIFE OF SEELEY OWEN.

This is a letter written by J. Ira Earl of Overton, Nevada, Jan. 13, 1926 to his son, Ira J. Earl of Las Vegas, Nevada.

My dear son Ira:

I am busy most of the time, but am not getting much done. I have been trying to get time to write you and tell you how much I appreciated your letter of December 22 and to thank you for the \$25.00 you sent me. I feel very grateful for the kindness of my children, Marion gave me \$25.00 on the car besides many other things. The girls are giving me a check each month so I am not distressed to make the payments. I feel that all I ever did for my children is coming back heaped up and running over. Milton is looking after the farm and directing the boys, so I am relieved of all cares of that nature. Kenneth is performing some splendid missionary work in the Eastern States, for which I am very thankful.

If I live until the 6th of September, I will have passed three-fourths of a century in mortality. I have seen many things that are quite marvelous to me when I think back over my life. I have met and conversed with William H. Hopper, Utah's first delegate to Congress. Many times have I shaken the hand of and conversed with Brigham Young, John Taylor, Orson Pratt and Wilford Woodruff. Some of the grandest men of this or any dispensation.

While the Gospel is the same in all ages, it sometimes seems to me, that the warm hand shake and hearty greeting is lacking today. In fact, that high class spirituality, that earnest devotion, that sincere inner conviction that this is the Zion of the last days, spoken of by the prophets of old, is in a measure lacking among the people in general.

Many there are that hold the Melchizedek Priesthood and have been in the Temple, that have filled missions, haven't faith enough to pay their tithing. When I think of the early Elders of the Church, leaving their families at the call of the Prophet Joseph, going into foreign countries, giving years of service to spread the Gospel, and gather scattered Israel. I think what a wonderful testimony they must have had. I think of my own Father and Mother and what they had to pass through. Also Father Bunker and his first wife, before they came to the mountains and of the faith of Aunt Mary Bunker, Viola's mother, who came from far off Scotland. Ira, we scarcely know what the word sacrifice means.

There are many things told me by my parents while I was a boy, that are just as bright in my mind as they were fifty or sixty years ago. I suppose they wished to impress me with the same faith they had, and as I grew to manhood, I would remember what they passed through for their faith in the Gospel. When I reflect on their splendid courage and faith, under the most trying circumstances, I am often moved to tears. My father's journal and Church History bears out all they have told me and many more things they had to pass through to plant the feet of their posterity in the mountains of Israel.

While I am thinking of these things, I may as well write a few of them. If I neglect it too long, they may never be written. My father, Sylvester Henry Earl, was the sixth son of Joseph Earl and Dorcas Tobitha Wixom Earl. He was born in Sciota County, Ohio on the 16th of August, 1815. He died at Middleton, Washington County, Utah on the 23rd of July, 1873, just 26 years to the day from the time he came into the Salt Lake Valley with the pioneers.

My mother, Lois Caroline Owen Earl, was born in Schuyler County, Illinois on the 8th of January 1818. She died at Bunkerville, Nevada on the 9th of March, 1884. You see I had Mother and three sisters to look after for over ten years after Father died. It might be well to add here that Father's blessing on my head when I was eight days old was that I should have a long and useful life and live to take care of my mother after we was gone to the other side of the Veil.

When I was a young man, the mining camps and rich agricultural valleys of Nevada offered many inducements for young men to leave their homes and go there. Good wages were paid, while money was scarce in southern Utah, some returned with fine horses, fine clothes and money in their pockets. On the other hand, I remember that many of the young men that went never returned. It was pretty hard for a young man to go to the meetings, and dances clad in home made clothes, with little or no money to spend, while boys of his age that had been off to work could wear nice clothes, high top boots and have money to spend freely!

I had many an inward battle in those days, sometimes fought on bended knees, but I thank the Lord that my dear Mother's prayers and influence prevailed, that I stayed home and took care of her as long as she lived.

Father was 21 years old when he first heard of the Gospel. He was soon converted and baptized by Apostle Charles C. Rich. In the summer of 1837 he went to Farwest, Missouri where the saints were gathering at that time, having been driven out of Jackson, Caly and Ray counties. At the October conference he was ordained by Elder Hyrum Smith. He bought 90 acres of land, a yoke of oxen and several cows. He started in to clear the land and make a home. In February 1839, he was called to go on a mission to the states of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio with more faith than either education or experience in preaching, he started East.

Near Jacksonville, Missouri he met the Prophet Joseph coming with his family from Kirtland, Ohio. He tells the prophet he is going on a mission, but is lacking in experience and knowledge of the scriptures. He sits down on a log by the side of the road and is given a blessing by Joseph. He is told to go on his way rejoicing, that his tongue would be loosed, that the Bible shall no more be a sealed book, but to him it would be an open book, that he will bring many souls to a knowledge of the truth, and bring them to Zion with songs of everlasting joy, that he should not be confounded nor suffer harm. The Prophet's blessing, his hearty "good-by brother, and God bless you," is just what he needed.

He now goes on East with a glad heart. He is no more the farmer boy of Ohio. He is God's minister to the Nations. He is one of the hunters and fishers spoken of by Jeremiah. His heart is set on the

great Latter-day work, henceforth, his life's work is devoted to the cause of Zion. Everything of an earthly nature is now secondary, first and foremost is the building up of the Zion of the last days. Ever after this his life shall be spent in the cause of the Master. He plunges into his work with a new zeal. Here and there, branches of the church are organized. Priests are ordained and appointed to look after the people. Pushing on through Illinois and Indiana, he reaches his old home in Ohio, only to find his Mother in poor health. He continues his ministry among the people. His mother passes away and he buries her by the side of his Father.

He now takes his two younger brothers, Joseph Wilbur and James Calvin, and returns to Illinois, holds a series of meetings in Schuyler County. At the close of one of the meetings he announces that a baptismal service will be held at 4 P.M. and that anyone that wishes to be baptized, can now make it known. A young lady 20 years old, is all that offered to be baptized. The congregation is amazed, the parents astonished, the brothers enraged. The meeting is dismissed. All go to their homes. The parents in a kind way try to get the girl to change her mind, but to no purpose. Her mind is made up. Her brothers get down their guns and commence to clean and load them, declaring that no Mormons shall baptize their sister. Several of her cousins, also, come with guns with the same determination that her brothers have. Thick darkness gathers around the now weeping girl. "What shall I do?" she cries out in the anguish of her soul, with no one to give her comfort. Alone she flies to the woods, at the rear of her Father's house. There on her bended knees she pours out her soul to her Heavenly Father. Thick darkness still hovers around her. Still on her knees, she continues to plead for deliverance, the darkness begins to break away. A light Divine now covers the weeping girl. Her heart is again filled with gladness, peace and joy, now reigns supreme in her soul. God has heard her prayer. She knows all is going to be well with her.

The hour draws near for the Baptismal rite. The girl with her friends, goes to the waters edge. The townspeople gather. The parents of the young lady walk slowly to the place appointed. The six young men with guns in hand also are with the crowd. The hour is near, the young preacher is seen coming with a quick step and head erect. He is not long in taking in the situation. The people are called to order and asked to join in the song,

The morning breaks, the shadows flee
Lo, Zion's standard is unfurled,
The dawning of a brighter day
Majestic rises on the world.

The clouds of error disappear
Before the rays of truth Divine,
The glory bursting from afar
Wide o'er the nations soon will shine.

A prayer is now offered. The Lord is implored to shed forth His light upon the assembled congregation that peace and quietness shall prevail. The young man now steps upon a nearby log and for half to three fourths of an hour holds the assembled crowd spellbound. He tells them that the Lord has again spoken from the Heaven, that a great Prophet has been raised up, that the authority to baptize in the name of Jesus has been restored, that all the ordinances of the

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house of God can now be administered with authority, that the Zion of the Last Days is to be built up, that Israel is to be gathered from the nations and a people prepared to meet the Savior at His coming, which is not far distant. He now steps down, takes the young lady by the hand, they go down into the stream and he baptizes her in the name of Jesus Christ. They come up out of the water. She sits down on the log and is confirmed a member of the Church. Not a word is spoken by the people. The brothers have sat down on the grass with guns in hand and heads bowed. The parents embrace the girl and tell her she is welcome to the home, but they do not approve of her action.

Father continues his missionary labor in Illinois, calling at the Owen home as often as wisdom suggests, and especially calling on the young lady, Lois Caroline, who had braved the storm of opposition and had accepted baptism at his hands. Her sister, Lydia Ann is quite favorable to the new faith. Her brothers soon repent of their evil intent. She is ever treated with kindness by them. In fact, they soon liked the young missionary that is calling on their sister. The parents grow more tolerant, and the young man is welcome to their home, during the fall of 1838. Father continues to preach in that vicinity. On the 28th of January, 1839, Lois Caroline Owen and Sylvester Henry Earl are married. Lois loves her home and her people, but she has embarked in a new cause. The cause of Zion. She is now ready to leave home and kindred and gather with the Saints.

The main body of the church is now gathering to Hancock County, Illinois. Father goes there and makes a home. Later, when the mob gathers and the church is in trouble, he moves in to Nauvoo and is ever in the thick of the fight, helping to defend the City and the Prophet Joseph. He is a good horseman and is out night and day carrying express from point to another. He is in much danger, and ran many narrow escapes, nearly losing his life many times. He was a member of the Nauvoo Legion and stood near the Prophet Joseph when he made his memorable speech of June 18, 1844. After the death of the prophet and his brother, Hyrum, he continues his labor in and around Nauvoo, working part of the time on the Temple, where later he and Mother received their endowments. Most of the Twelve Apostles are on missions in the Eastern States. Some in Europe. Sydney Rigdon, Joseph's first counselor, now comes from Pittsburg, Pa., where he fled when the Church was in its deepest trouble. Joseph had refused to sustain him, but now he comes back wishing to lead the church. Some of the people are willing to sustain him. A majority of the Twelve has now returned from their missions. A meeting is called. The saints gather by the thousands. Brigham Young, President of the Twelve, is among them. On the 8th of August, in the forenoon, Sydney Rigdon lays his claims before the people. In the afternoon again the people by the thousands assemble. Brigham Young walks upon the stand and with a wave of the hand says, "Attention, all Israel." All eyes are fixed upon him. It is the form of Joseph, it is the voice of Joseph, he is transfigured before the people. All doubt is banished. He is the true shepherd of Latter Day Israel.

The trouble continued in Nauvoo. The Saints had to leave their homes on the 10th of February, 1846. My father and mother crossed the Mississippi River. A number of men with long poles with iron spikes in them was on the upper side of the boat to steer the large blocks of ice that were running down the river so they would not capsize the boat. Those boats were kept running night and day for weeks, to take the Saints over the river. They crossed the plains of Iowa in the

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winter. The snow being sometimes two feet deep. The people, poorly clad and poorly fed, finally arrived on the banks of the Missouri River, far away from their enemies.

In the spring of 1847 Father is asked by Brigham Young to go with him to the mountains. He is ever ready to go at any call, but he leaves the following in his journal:

"It was hard for me to leave my little family sick among the howling wolves and the roaming savages of the west; but the servants of the Lord has said go, and I felt as ever, to leave all for the Gospel and the salvation of this people."

He returned to his family in the fall of 1847 having suffered many hardships and privations with the other Pioneers. On the homeward journey, he and another man went to an Indian camp and traded their shirts for dried buffalo meat to do them the rest of the way home, then cut up their wagon cover and made each a shirt.

I wish to state right here that my mother's sister, Lydia Ann also joined the church in Illinois and so did her cousin Seeley Owen. Seeley and Lydia married and came west with the Saints to Winter-Quarters on the Missouri River. In the fall of 1846 and the spring of 1847 there was much sickness among the people, many of them died because of the hardships and suffering they had to pass through. Among them was aunt Lydia, Seeley Owen's wife. She left a little girl that they had named Lydia Ann. My mother took little Ann as she was called, and she lived with her for a number of years.

Seeley Owen went with the Pioneers sharing cheerfully all they had to pass through on that wonderful journey to the mountains. He was my uncle even before he married my mother's sister, Lydia Ann, his first cousin. He later married again and settled in Provo, Utah. Little Ann is now taken care of by her father and stepmother. She grew to be a most beautiful and lovely woman. She married Abram Golden Conover, son of Peter Wilson Conover, first settlers of Provo. They raised a fine family. I have only met three of her children, Mrs. James Leatham, (Lydia Ann), Mrs. J. W. Strong (Alta Eveline), and Don Wilson Conover, all of Provo, Utah. They are the only relatives I know of on my mother's side. I love to call on them. They make one feel like he was at home among his own people. They are the most hospitable people I have ever met. I hope none of my children will ever pass through Provo without calling on them. If you do, you will have lost an opportunity of meeting some of the best people in the world. Don't do it for my mother's sake, do it for yourself. They loved their aunt Lois as they loved their own Mother.

In the spring of 1848 Sylvester Henry Earl started with his family for the Salt Lake Valley. One child died while at Council Bluffs and one was born while on their journey to the mountains. Father was not only a mechanic, but a genius. Everything had to be made that the people had to use, plows, harrows, wagons and all kinds of household furniture. He made the spinning wheel, the reel and the loom on which my Angel Mother took the raw wool and cotton and made clothing for the family. Is there any love and devotion that is too great for us to make? No, verily not.

Remembering the trouble in the states, Father and my brother, Wilbur, was out in the mountains all one winter helping to keep Johnson's

Army out of Salt Lake City. In the spring of 1858 a treaty was entered into and Johnson's Army came into the Salt Lake Valley. Most of the people had moved south, so there were few people in Salt Lake City. They came back during the summer. It is here that my memory of these stirring events begins. I well remember the move south and the return to the city. The great ox trains coming in with the Saints, and with goods for the merchants, are all still fresh and bright. Well do I remember the hand-cart Company coming in and camping on the Union Square. Father Bunker told me that his company camped there. So I think perhaps it was his company that I so well remember. From 1852 to 1855, Father was on a mission to England. After coming from his mission he accepted the law of plural marriage, taking as his second wife, Margret Emily Jones, a very fine English girl, who was ever true to him and to the Gospel. She bore him three children, one of whom is my splendid brother, Thomas Franklin Earl, of Mountain View, Alberta, Canada. A fine man and has a splendid family full of faith in the Gospel, though differing with some on the advisability of President Woodruff issuing the manifesto, advising the saints to stop entering plural marriages.

In 1861, Father was called to help settle Utah's Dixie. At this time he was a high priest having been chosen and set apart as First Counselor to Bishop Alonzo H. Raleigh of the 19th Ward, in Salt Lake City. Previous to this he was Senior President of the 20th Quorum of Seventies.

We started on the journey south on the 29th of October, arriving in Pine valley about the 25th of November, 1861. We were well fitted for the journey, having three outfits besides loose horses, cattle and sheep.

Though I was only 9 years old, I drove an ox team all the way from Salt Lake City to Pine Valley. Father drove another outfit with two yoke of oxen. My elder brothers Wilbur and Sylvester took turns driving the other outfit which consisted of two wagons with four yoke of oxen hitched to them.

Father purchased a large tent, one that had been brought in by Johnson's Army. It was round, about 15 feet in diameter and about 12 to 15 feet high, with a two foot opening on the top. At night the tent was set up and a big fire built in the middle of it. This was a wonderful outing for the younger portion of us. The women did the cooking on the camp fire.

Many times others moving south would camp near to us and would come to our big tent at night bringing their musical instruments. We would have music and singing until time to retire for the night, thus making the journey quite pleasant.

The winters in Pine Valley were long, cold and bleak. So Father took up a ranch some few miles west where it was much warmer in winter and little snow. He also bought a home in St. George where mother and the smaller children spent the winter.

Owing to trouble with the Indians in southern Utah, all the ranchers were advised to move into the settlements. It was while we were living on this ranch about 1864 that Father met Solomon Avery Wixom in St. George. He was on his way to southern California with a family by the name of Jackson. Father persuaded him not to go to California, but to come and live with him. Solomon gave up his trip

and came and lived with us a number of years.

It was at this time that the love between him and my sweet sister, Orenia, was kindled. Which in later years, ripened into marriage. He was a splendid man and I loved him as a brother.

About the year 1866 he was asked to take six yoke of oxen and go down to the Missouri River and help bring a company of Saints across the plains. He drove the team down and back to Salt Lake City, but never came to live with us again.

About this time Father took up land in Pine Valley and moved both families there about 1869. Father bought a place in Middleton from William Fream. I think about 4 or 5 acres with some fruit trees and grape vines on it, giving him \$700.00 for it. He moved his wife, Margret and family down here. He spent part of his time in Pine Valley and part in Middleton.

In July 1873 word reached us that Father was seriously sick at Middleton. My brother, Wilbur went immediately to Middleton where he was. Mother was too ill to go down. The first thing he said to Wilbur was, "Where is mother?" He was informed that she was not able to come down. He turned his face to the wall and went, saying: "I fear I will never see her again in mortality. Have Joseph come with the spring wagon and take me to Pine Valley. Perhaps the change in climate, good water and good care will make the improvement."

As soon as word reached me, I fixed up the outfit and went down, only to find it was too late. He was in a state of unconsciousness and passed away in about 12 hours after I reached there. There was present at his bed side, at his death; his wife Margaret; his only living brother, Joseph Wilbur; his sons Wilbur Bradley, Joseph Ira and Thomas Franklin.

I am now going to relate a few of the things that happened just before his death. This was related to me by Wilbur while on our journey home. His dying testimony is most remarkable to think about. It was related to Joseph Wilbur, his wife and my brother, Wilbur, all testifying that it was true.

Soon after the word was sent to me to come down, Father relapsed into unconsciousness, remaining that way for about 36 hours. He did not seem to be in any pain or distress. When he awoke he called his wife, his brother and his son, Wilbur Bradley, now 34 years old, to his bedside and related what had happened while his body lay in unconsciousness. He could only talk fifteen or twenty minutes, then would rest. He had to be braced up in bed while he talked to them.

He said: "I have been to the world of spirits. I have seen the Prophet Joseph and his brother, Hyrum. They are very busy men. I have seen my two sons, Sylvester and Hyrum, and they are contented and happy. I saw many others that I knew. I walked the streets of their beautiful cities and saw many people. Everything seemed to be material, but of a finer nature. I wish to leave my dying testimony with my family that they are not deceived. This is the work of the Lord that we have embraced. Joseph Smith is one of the mightiest Prophets that ever graced this earth. Brigham Young is the right man to lead this people." Then taking his son, Wilbur, by the hand he said, "I want

you to tell my family that are not here to never disobey the council that comes from the authorities of this Church." He further said, "I have a message for Mother from my son Sylvester. He said to tell Mother that the young lady I spoke to her about is here. I see her often and she is just as sweet and good as when in mortality. She is all the world to me and is all that I could ask her to be. I am glad that I didn't marry the girl I was expecting to, for she was not the one for me. Mother will understand when you tell her." This was a direct message from the other world as not a soul on the earth knew about this but my mother. Mother had kept this matter to herself fearing that she would hurt the feelings of the girl he was engaged to.

I could tell you more but don't think I had better, as this letter is now too long. I wish to add this: That my Father's dying testimony and his advice to his family has been worth much to me.

I was 21 years old when my Father died. I know he was a man of God. His faith in the divine mission of Joseph Smith, his devotion to the cause of Zion, his example before his family and all Israel, places him far above the average men of his day. My Mother was among the best women that ever lived.

While I have not kept all the commandments of the Lord, far from it, I have fallen short in many things that the Lord has required; but while trying to walk the narrow path, got off, first on one side and then on the other, I have tried to keep my eye on the mark far above the little petty things of life, and devote my time and service to the Lord and the building of the Zion of the Last Days.

I know that if we are ever saved and exalted in our Father's Kingdom, it will be through obedience to the Laws of the Gospel. God is not going to be mocked and he that wasteth the day of his Probation, has no one to blame but his own dear self.

I hope you, or the others of my family will not tire reading this letter. I don't know just why I have been inspired to write this lengthy letter, but it may be cleared up some day.

Your ever dear Father,

J. I. Earl, Patriarch