

GENEALOGY.

The Joseph Smith Family—An Unbroken Chain Back to 1638—Remarkable Men—New England Pioneers—Revolutionary War Heroes—Prominent in Civil Affairs—Philosophical and Vivid—Last Testament of Asael Smith.

(This department is prepared by the genealogical committee of the Daughters of the Pioneers. ELIZABETH CLARIDGE MCUNE, Chairman. EDITH A. SMITH, HENRIE HORN JAMES, JOSEPHINE BEATTIE BURTON.

It is proposed, in these columns, to give the genealogical story of some of the well known Utah families. These stories will be both interesting and suggestive. They will furnish data which will be of historical interest as well as of collateral value. At the head of the list is, properly placed the families of the man selected by the Lord as His chosen instrument in this dispensation:

JOSEPH SMITH. The name of Smith has been used, with that of Jones and Brown, as a synonym of multiplicity of persons attached to one surname. This is hardly true. As a matter of fact, there are other names, as common, if not more so, than that of Smith. And, further, there appears to be no family name more easily traced than that of the Joseph Smith family. It is suggestive of an overruling Providence to find that the progenitors of the Prophet were moved upon by a strong impulse to re-

He died Nov. 14, 1785, leaving an estate valued at \$544-12-8. The Salem Gazette of Nov. 22, 1785, in recording the fact of his death made mention of him in the following worthy terms: "Died—At Topsfield, on Monday the 14th instant, Samuel Smith, Esq., aged 72—So amiable and worthy a character as he evidently appeared, both in public and private, will render the memory of him ever precious. For a number of years he represented the town in the general court, where he was esteemed a man of integrity and uprightness. His usefulness among those with whom he was more immediately conversant was eminent. He was a sincere friend to the liberties of his country, and a strenuous advocate for the doctrine of Christianity.

"The memory of the just is blessed." Asael, son of Samuel, was born in Topsfield, March 7, 1744. His mother died shortly after his birth and he was left in the care of his father's second wife, Priscilla. The greater part of his early life was spent in Topsfield. Feb. 12, 1767, he married Mary Duty, of Windham, New Hampshire, and took up his residence in that place about the year 1772. From there he moved to Derryfield and from there he went to Derryfield, now the city of Manchester.

During the Revolution he followed the example of his worthy father, and cast his lot on the side of the patriots, and his lot on the side of the patriots,

the gold (viz.) all the monarchical and ecclesiastical will be broken to pieces and become as the chaff of the summer threshing floor; the wind shall carry them all away, and there shall be no place found for them. But perhaps the sentiments and character of the man are best depicted in his address to his family which is here produced in full. A few lines of advice which I leave to you, my dear wife and children, whom I expect ere long to leave: "My Dear Self—I know not what leisure I shall have at the hour of my death to speak to you, and as you all know that I am not free in speech, especially when sick or sad; and therefore now do speak my heart to you, and would wish you to hear me speaking to you as long as you live (when my tongue shall be muffled to dust in the silent tomb) in this my writing which I divide among you all. And first, my dear wife, I do wish all the strength and power that is in me, thank you for your kindness and faithfulness to me, beseeching God who is the husband of the widow, to take care of you and not to cease you nor forsake you, or never suffer you to leave nor forsake Him, nor His ways. Put your whole trust solely in Him. He never did nor never will forsake any that trusted in Him. One thing, however, I would add, if you should marry again, remember what I have undergone by a stepmother, and do not estrange your husband from his own children or kindred, lest you draw on him and on yourself a great sin. So I do resign you into the everlasting arms of the great Husband of widows, the Lord Jesus Christ.

And now my dear children let me pour out my heart to you and speak first to you of immortality in your souls. Trifle not in this point; the soul is immortal; you have to deal with an infinite Majesty; you go upon life and death; therefore in this point be serious. Do all to God in a serious manner; when you think of Him, speak should not succeed according to your wishes. "Persevere in the way of well-doing and you may hope for success. For myself (who had never your part, but I never found any thing so hard for me in my calling, but discouragement and unbelief. If I was discouraged and did not believe I could do a thing, never could; therefore, when you think anything is too hard for you, do not undertake it.

"As to Your Company—Abandon all infectious, self-serving companions; when once you have found them, trust them no more. Sort with such as are able to do or receive good. Solomon gives you the best counsel for this in many places. Read the Proverbs, and remember that in this world, as in an old friend, be friendly and faithful to your friends. Never trouble nor trust friends unless there be a necessity, and lastly be long in closing with acquaintance and loath to lose them upon experience of them.

"As to Your Marriages—I do not think it worth while to say much about them, for I believe God hath created you for each other, and that nature will find its own way. "But for Your Children—Make it your chiefest work to bring them up in the ways of virtue that they may be able to receive a good education; if nature hath made no difference do you make none in your affections, continuance nor portions; partially this is your greatest sin, and the cause of all contention.

"And as for Yourselves Within Yourselves—My desire hath been to carry an even hand towards you all and I have labored to reduce you to equality, and I am confident in that, if you will trust God in His own way He will make you comfortable in your old age. Make no more objections but trust Him. "For the Public—Bless God that you live in a land of liberty and bear yourselves dutifully and conscientiously towards the authority under which you live. See God's providence in the appointment of the federal Constitution and hold union and order precious jewels. And for the Church of Christ, neither set at naught the husband nor the wife; give her that honor and respect that is her due. And if you will be my children and heirs of my comfort in my dying age, be neither schism nor factions of any party or faction or novelty; it is true that this is not a rising way, but it is a free, fair, comfortable way for a man to follow his own judgment, without going to either hand. I make no doubt but you will hear divers opinions concerning me both before and after I shall sleep in silence; but do not be troubled, for I do not care for the present; however, the event hath not in some points answered my expectations; yet I have learned to measure things by the rule of eternity, and satisfy myself in this that I did all for the best as I thought, and if I had not so much foresight as some others I cannot help it.

"As to Your Estates—Be not troubled that you are below your kindred; get more wisdom, humility and virtue and you are above them only do this. Deal with your hearts to make them less; begin low, join together to help one another; rest upon the promises which are made in the way. Love me more and have mercy on yourselves and one another, and I know, I know, I say and I am confident in it, that if you will trust God in His own way He will make you comfortable in your old age. Make no more objections but trust Him. "For the Public—Bless God that you live in a land of liberty and bear yourselves dutifully and conscientiously towards the authority under which you live. See God's providence in the appointment of the federal Constitution and hold union and order precious jewels. And for the Church of Christ, neither set at naught the husband nor the wife; give her that honor and respect that is her due. And if you will be my children and heirs of my comfort in my dying age, be neither schism nor factions of any party or faction or novelty; it is true that this is not a rising way, but it is a free, fair, comfortable way for a man to follow his own judgment, without going to either hand. I make no doubt but you will hear divers opinions concerning me both before and after I shall sleep in silence; but do not be troubled, for I do not care for the present; however, the event hath not in some points answered my expectations; yet I have learned to measure things by the rule of eternity, and satisfy myself in this that I did all for the best as I thought, and if I had not so much foresight as some others I cannot help it.

"The original copy of this article, which is in a well preserved condition, is now in the possession of the Smith family. It was read and well understood by Asael's family many years before his death and no doubt had a great influence over them in their actions for good.

Asael was devotedly attached to his wife, his life-long companion, who survived him. The latter years of his life were spent in the quietude of his home in Stockholm, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., where he died Oct. 2, 1830, over 86 years of age. In status he was tall, his body was well proportioned and portly, and was a man of good handling with ease two ordinary men.

The children of Asael and Mary were: 1—Jesse, born April 20, 1760, in Topsfield, when his father's family moved to the west, Jesse remained in Vermont. He married Hannah Peabody and had the following children: Benjamin, b. Jan. 13, 1793; Ira, b. Jan. 29, 1797; Harry, b. April 1, 1799; Harriet, b. April 8, 1801; Stephen, b. May 2, 1803; Mary, b. May 4, 1805; Catherine, b. May 18, 1807; Sally, b. July 2, 1809; Sarah, b. Dec. 16, 1812.

2—Priscilla, born in Topsfield, Oct. 20, 1769; married John C. Waller, Aug. 24, 1806. Their children were: Charles, b. 1810; John, b. 1812; Peter, b. Oct. 16, 1789; d. June 29, 1809; Marshall S., b. March 18, 1801; Royal H., b. Nov. 29, 1802; Dudley C., b. Sept. 29, 1804; Bushrod, b. Oct. 18, 1806; Silas, b. Jan. 18, 1807; Sally F., b. Oct. 31, 1810; John H., b. Sept. 9, 1812; d. Nov. 5, 1812.

3—Joseph, born in Topsfield, July 12, 1771. He moved with his family to Tunbridge, Orange county, Vermont, in 1791, and assisted in clearing a large farm of a heavy growth of timber. In the year 1815, Joseph moved to the town of New York, and settled in Manchester, Ontario county. While the family was living in New York, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized, with six members on April 6, 1820, and Joseph Smith, Jr., was chosen as its president. This young man who, at this time, was but 24 years of age, is generally spoken of as the founder of Mormonism, and he is held in high esteem by members of the Church of Jesus Christ, look upon him as an instrument in the hands of God in restoring to the world the true religion, the true Christian religion, and to them he is a prophet in the fullest sense of the word, as Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, etc., were to ancient Israel. His testimony to the truth of the power of God he was enabled to translate from golden plates, which were buried in the earth about the year 420 A. D., a history of the people of Israel, which is contained in this record is now known as the Book of Mormon; by the same power and authority the Church of Jesus Christ was organized with the same officers, and the same power, which characterized the church in the days of the apostles.

Joseph Smith, Sr., was the first to accept the testimony of his son and in

the year 1833 he was called to the office of presiding patriarch of the Church. He died in Nauvoo, Hancock county, Ill., Jan. 18, 1840, of consumption which was brought on through exposure and suffering during the mobbings and persecutions of his people. The Prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum (the latter succeeding his father as patriarch), when under the protection of Gov. Thomas Ford of Illinois, while waiting trial on the charge of treason, were murdered in Carthage jail, June 27, 1844, by a mob disguised with painted faces. For what reason these men were charged with treason has never been made clear, unless, according to the ruling of Judge Austin A. King, "they believed that the kingdom of God would eventually be set up upon the earth and break in Lacey all other nations, hence they were guilty of treason." The Church of Jesus Christ today numbers 300,000 souls.

Joseph (2) married Lucy, daughter of Solomon, in Lyella Mack, Jan. 24, 1796. Their children were: Alvin, b. Feb. 11, 1798; d. Nov. 19, 1824; Hyrum, b. Feb. 9, 1800; d. June 27, 1844; Sophronia, b. May 10, 1803; Joseph (Mormon), b. Dec. 22, 1805; d. June 27, 1844; Samuel Harrison, b. March 13, 1808; d. July 30, 1844; Ephraim, b. March 13, 1810; d. March 24, 1819; William, b. March 13, 1811; Catherine, b. July 12, 1812; d. March 6, 1835; d. Aug. 7, 1841; Lucy, b. July 18, 1821.

4—Asael, born May 21, 1778, in Windham, Rockingham county, N. H. He married Elizabeth Shelton, March 21, 1802. In 1809 he settled in Stockholm, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., and in 1836 removed to Kirland, Ohio. He acted as the guardian of his nephew, Joseph, and became a member of the Mormon Church in 1835. From that time his life was spent in the ministry. He died July 21, 1858, at Wapello county, Iowa, while on his way to the Rocky mountains. His son Elias, a pioneer of the west, became probate judge of Salt Lake county, Utah, in 1850, and served until 1852.

The children of Asael and Elizabeth Smith were: Elias, b. Sept. 6, 1804; d. June 24, 1888; Emily, b. Sept. 1, 1806; d. Aug. 11, 1893; Jesse, b. Nov. 11, 1809; d. May 7, 1899; Charity, b. April 1, 1808; Curtis S., b. Oct. 29, 1809; d. Sept. 23, 1861; Samuel, b. Oct. 3, 1811; d. March 7, 1829; Stephen, b. June 1, 1815; Susan, b. Oct. 19, 1817; d. June 11, 1822; d. Oct. 19, 1817; d. June 11, 1822; d. Oct. 19, 1817; d. June 11, 1822.

5—Mary, born June 4, 1775, married Isaac Pierce; their children were: Eunice, b. April 29, 1799; Miranda, b. June 29, 1801; Horace, b. July 8, 1805; John S., b. March 6, 1807; Susan, b. June 20, 1809; Mary, b. April 25, 1811; Laura, b. Feb. 8, 1814; Eliza A., b. Sept. 2, 1817.

6—Samuel, born Sept. 15, 1777, married Phineas Wilcox in February, 1816. He died in March, 1830. The children were: Charles, b. April 17, 1817; Laura, b. 1819; Horace J., Elizabeth, Sarah.

7—Silas, born Oct. 1, 1779, died Sept. 13, 1830, married, first, Ruth Stevens, Jan. 29, 1805, by whom he had the following children: Charles, b. Nov. 11, 1806; d. May 7, 1809; Charity, b. April 1, 1808; Curtis S., b. Oct. 29, 1809; d. Sept. 23, 1861; Samuel, b. Oct. 3, 1811; d. March 7, 1829; Stephen, b. June 1, 1815; Susan, b. Oct. 19, 1817; d. June 11, 1822; d. Oct. 19, 1817; d. June 11, 1822.

8—John, born July 16, 1781, in Derryfield (Manchester), Rockham county, N. H. In 1815 he married Clarissa Lyman by whom he had three children, George Albert, b. June 26, 1817; d. Sept. 1, 1875; Caroline, b. June 6, 1820; John Lyman, b. Nov. 17, 1823. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ in 1832 and became one of its most active workers. He was one of the pioneers of the west, having crossed the plains from Nauvoo, Illinois, to the Great Salt Lake in the fall of the year 1847. He died in Salt Lake City, Utah, May 23, 1854. His son, George A., was one of the most renowned leaders of the Mormon Church.

9—Susannah, born May 18, 1783; d. 1822; d. in 1822; Jesse Nathaniel, b. Dec. 2, 1834.

10—Stephen, born April 23, 1785; died April 23, 1862.

11—Sarah, born May 16, 1789, married Joseph Smith, Oct. 13, 1809; b. 1816; John Lyman, b. May 20, 1818. She died May 27, 1824. Their children were: Martin, b. Sept. 24, 1811; d. Nov. 24, 1817; Charlotte, b. March 4, 1814; William Wallace, b. June 13, 1817.

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CALIFORNIA COLONY. San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 10.—In company with Elder John H. Shaw, the visiting elder at Salt Lake City, I recently visited a number of our people who came to this state from Idaho in search of a milder climate.

Believing that the balmy air of sunny California would be conducive to long life and happiness, they have decided to remain here, and have negotiated for a tract of land in Butte county, near the town of Gridley, about 60 miles north of Sacramento.

We were very favorably impressed with the conditions that obtained and believe that they will be able to accomplish good in teaching the gospel truths by example as well as by precept. Already they have made many friends among the inhabitants of that section, including a number of the most prominent and influential people, some having expressed a desire to become acquainted with the religion of the Latter-day Saints.

It is my opinion that their presence in this locality will do much to aid in spreading the gospel and will help to allay the prejudice that exists against their people.

During our stay we held two meetings with the new-comers, and learned that they were very anxious to effect a branch organization, so that they might hold regular meetings and Sabbath schools. I have reported the matter to Pres. J. E. Robinson and doubtless definite steps in this direction will be taken in the near future.

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120,866 tracts and books were distributed—we sold over four times more books than were sold, loaned and given away during the previous year; homes visited with first tract, 37,210; homes visited on re-visitations, 683; Gospel conversations, 33,465; baptisms, an increase of 25 per cent. The saints have assisted materially in the growth of the work. While many of our best tithe-payers have emigrated to Utah, our tithe receipts have increased about 20 per cent. The Star has increased its subscription list from 355 to 800, which we consider a good showing. We do not submit these figures in a boastful spirit. We glory not in anything that we have done, but give the praise and the honor to God, whose arm is raised and is very pleasant to us, and perform faithfully our work.