Theodore Turley Family NEWSLETTER

Jan.1996-Editor Helen Skinner-3163 E. Gable Cir.,Mesa,Az.85204

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May all of you find peace and joy in this new year, 1996. Re-evaluate the meaning of the holidays and your own core values. Fill your days with acts of kindness. Renew your love and caring for your families and your appreciation for your heritage. Take a moment to express thanks to your Heavenly Father for our common ancestors, Theodore Turley and Francis Amelia Kimberley.

An expression of appreciation and thanks are in order to all of you who have supported the effort made to begin again this Theodore Turley Organization. Some have contributed funds, other have sent names and addresses and some of you are doing hours of research trying to find our ancestors. It has made it possible for us to feel love for each other as a family and do organized research.

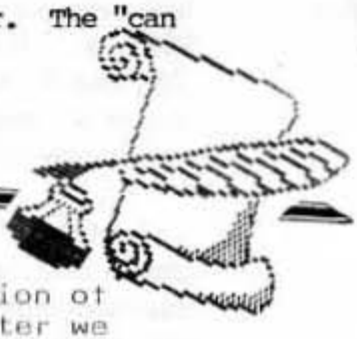
It was decided many months ago, if we had the means we would send this Newsletter to everyone for whom we had an address, over 1,100 of you. We had some 375 of you contribute about $5,000.00. God bless you for your generosity. This is our fourth Newsletter, two mailouts to everyone and expenses in getting genealogical research underway. We have in the bank $2,449.00 from which we will pay for the printing and mailing of the January 1996 Newsletter.

We have over 100 genealogical lines being researched. If any of you desire to work on any of the lines, see the enclosed list of those who have taken specific assignments, contact that person and then we will not duplicate efforts. If you desire a complete record of what we have, contact Kim and Toni Haws, P.O. Box 8, St. Johns, Arizona 85935, our genealogical research consultants.

Remember, we are all connected by our heritage. We need each other. The "can do" spirit is the fuel that makes things happen. Happy new year!

Love,

Jay F. Turley



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With the publication of this our 4th newsletter we have accomplished a unity that only a family that loves each other can do. It has been a privilege working for you as the publisher, however I would appreciate any input and ideas you may have to help make the future publications be even more interesting and informative.

May this year be the very best for each and every one and may you all be blessed in all your efforts for 1996.

Love Helen Skinner

Ancestral Biography

Theodore Turley: A Biography

Richard E. Turley, Jr.

(Continued)

[This is another in a continuing series of newsletter articles that together will make up the first rough draft of a biography of Theodore Turley. The draft will undergo considerable revision before being published in book form. I invite all family members to read it critically, make suggestions, and offer additional information for possible inclusion. Please send comments and information to me at 7435 South 2405 West, West Jordan, Utah 84084.]

3 Joining the Latter-day Saints, 1837

Theodore Turley had been a deeply religious man since at least 1818 when, according to his own account, he "comenced Preaching Methodism" in England. After emigrating to Canada, he "continued in that cource . . . until P. P. Pratt came to Canadia."[1] Parley Parker Pratt was an apostle in what would soon be named The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a church organized by young New York prophet Joseph Smith after receiving heavenly instructions to restore the church that Jesus Christ founded. Joseph had been led to an ancient record written on gold plates that he translated and published as the Book of Mormon. Based on the book's name, members of the new church were nicknamed "Mormons," though more formally known as Latter-day Saints, or just saints.[2] The missionary preaching of Parley P. Pratt would begin a chain reaction of conversions that would include Theodore and Frances Turley and forever alter their lives.

One evening in April 1836, Parley lay awake trying to decide whether to start on a church mission or stay home, support his family, and work to pay off his debts. A knock interrupted him. Answering the door, he found fellow apostle Heber C. Kimball and others, who proceeded to bless Parley and his ailing wife, Thankful. Heber prophesied that Thankful would bear a son, told Parley to "go forth in the ministry, nothing doubting," and promised the Lord would provide them abundant means.

In blessing Parley, Heber specified where he should go to preach and foretold the outcome of his efforts:

> Thou shalt go to Upper Canada, even to the city of Toronto, the capital, and there thou shalt find a people prepared for the fullness of the gospel, and they shall receive thee, and thou shalt organize the Church among them, and it shall spread thence into the regions round about, and many shall be brought to the knowledge of the truth and shall be filled with joy; and from the things

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growing out of this mission, shall the fullness of the gospel spread into England, and cause a great work to be done in that land.[3]

Portions of Heber's prophecies surprised Parley and Thankful. In nearly a decade of marriage, they had been childless, and having Parley leave Thankful sick at home so he could serve a mission seemed an unlikely solution to their money problems.

They recalled the faith of the Old Testament prophet Abraham, however, and with Thankful's consent, Parley embarked on his mission a few days later. He traveled northeast by coach from his home in Kirtland, Ohio, to Niagara Falls. Crossing westward into Canada, he soon came to the city of Hamilton on the far western bank of Lake Ontario. There he found steamers that could carry him along the lake to Toronto in just a few hours.

But steamer fare was two dollars, and the penniless Parley began to wonder if he would have to make the journey on foot instead. Pondering what to do, he retired to the forest and prayed for money to cross the lake. He then returned to Hamilton. "I had not tarried many minutes," Parley's history records, "before I was accosted by a stranger, who inquired my name and where I was going. He also asked me if I did not want some money. I said yes. He then gave me ten dollars and a letter of introduction to John Taylor, of Toronto, where I arrived the same evening."[4]

John Taylor and his wife, Leonora, received Parley hospitably but showed little initial interest in his mission. The next morning, Parley visited the local clergymen to secure a place to preach, but they each in turn refused him. He next asked the sheriff for permission to use the courthouse, and when the sheriff turned him down, he petitioned unsuccessfully for a room in the marketplace in which to preach. Having exhausted his store of ideas, he retired to a nearby grove to pray again for help. Still despairing after his prayer, Parley went back to the Taylors' house to retrieve his bags before leaving the city for good.

As Parley was picking up his bags, Isabella Russell Walton, widow of Toronto's first lord chamberlain, dropped by the Taylors' on her way across town to visit a sister. Leonora Taylor received Isabella in the room next to that in which Parley was standing and told her about him. "He has applied in vain to the clergy and to the various authorities for opportunity to fulfill his mission, and is now about to leave the place," Leonora said. "He may be a man of God; I am sorry to have him depart."[5]

Isabella had felt inspired to visit the Taylors', and she now knew why. "Tell the stranger he is welcome to my house," she said to Leonora. "I am a widow; but I have a spare room and bed, and food in plenty. He shall have a home at my house, and two large rooms to preach in just when he pleases."[6] Later, Isabella Walton sent her son John to the Taylors' to bring Parley back, and in the evening, she gathered her friends and relatives in her parlor to hear the missionary speak. Parley continued to hold meetings at the Waltons' and soon gathered many followers.

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Sunday arrived and Parley decided to forego a Sunday sermon, since it would likely arouse opposition from local clergymen. Instead, he went to a nearby chapel with a friend who introduced him to the preacher after the meeting. The preacher invited Parley to dinner and then to a study group meeting at the home of a wealthy government official named William P. Patrick.[7] The Patrick study group, which included John and Leonora Taylor, as well as Isabella Walton, had been meeting twice each week for about two years.

During the meeting, the discussion turned to the subject of divine revelation, but the participants in the discussion were unable to reach a consensus on the matter. Toward the end of the meeting, the preacher who had invited Parley to the meeting stood and introduced him. Parley, who had remained quiet during the discussion, took advantage of his introduction to inform the people that he was "prepared to speak on the subject at some length." Learning this, the group arranged to meet again in the evening to hear Parley's discourse.[8]

That evening Parley spoke to a large crowd for two or three hours about revelation in the ancient church. The following evening he preached again, citing biblical prophecies of "a new dispensation revealed from heaven; by the ministration of angels, and sustained by the marvelous power and gifts of God." On the third night, he concluded his discourse by relating the "visions, manifestations and many of the details of the organization and movements of the Church of the Saints."

When William Patrick discovered that Parley was advocating Mormonism, he rejected him, and therefore subsequent meetings had to be held at the Waltons'. Soon Isabella Walton and her household were converted to the new faith, as were John and Leonora Taylor.[9] Parley baptized Isabella in Toronto Bay and then took the yet unbaptized John Taylor to Charleton Settlement, ten miles West of Toronto, where Isabella had arranged for Parley to meet her brother, Isaac Russell.

Isaac was a chorister and class leader in the local Methodist church. Parley preached a sermon at the home of Isabella's and Isaac's sister, Frances Russell Dawson, after which Isaac declared, "This is the Gospel I have been looking for and am ready to live and die by." Soon thereafter, Parley baptized Isaac in Black Creek, a half mile west of the settlement, and ordained him to be an elder in the church. Parley also met and converted several others in Isaac's neighborhood, including Joseph Fielding and Joseph's sisters, Mary and Mercy.[10]

After his baptism, Isaac Russell began proselyting in nearby towns and villages, including Churchville, where he would preach the new-found gospel to Theodore and Frances Turley.[11] Theodore later recorded that Isaac "came to my house & Said he had been notified in a Dreem that he must Come to my house & preach."[12] Like other Latter-day Saints, Isaac believed "in the gift of tongues, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of tongues, and so forth."[13]

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A Protestant preacher who encountered Isaac Russell in the Churchville area left record of a solemn testimony Isaac bore to him about spiritual gifts:

> I asked him, "did you mean to say that you yourself have had a revelation from heaven?" [H]e replied that he had, and proceeded to tell me of one in particular. He said that one morning as he was meditati[ng], he saw the heavens opened and the glory of God, and, I think he added, he saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God, and he heard a voice saying to him "Follow thou me." This he told me in a serious and solemn strain.[14]

Neither Theodore nor Frances left a record of what Isaac Russell preached at their house, but it probably bore some resemblance to what Parley P. Pratt had been teaching. One of Parley's Canadian converts, Joseph Fielding, described Parley's missionary preaching as follows:

> I soon discovered that he had the Spirit and Power of God and such Wisdom as none but God himself could have given to Man, by which he could explain those prophecies of which the Preachers of the Day were ignorant, showing the great design and connection of the Scriptures throughout. He also spoke of and introduced the Book of Mormon. . . . He at the same time [said] that the angel made known the record . . . . He spoke also of the present State of the Gentile Church, saying that they were in a fallen condition, that they had all departed from the Truth, that there were none with whom the Lord was well pleased; that they had transgressed the Law, changed the Ordinances and broken the everlasting Covenant, and it was necessary that the Covenant should be renewed before a pure Church could be built up, to have the Ordinances, Gifts and Blessings of the Church of Jesus Christ as established by himself; also that the Day of the Lord was nigh at hand, . . . even that the present Generation should not all pass away until all these things should be fulfilled. Elder Pratt laid before us the Ordinances of the Gospel, which were very plain, being perfectly in accordance with the Scripture, being still more clearly expressed in the Book of Mormon.[15]

Whatever Isaac actually preached to Theodore and Frances affected them powerfully. Theodore would write, "I received the truth the first time I heard it & my Wife allso was baptized the 1 of March 1837."[16] March 1, 1837, became a watershed date for Theodore and Frances Turley. From that day on, their lives would never be the same.

And the prophecies of Heber C. Kimball on the head of Parley P. Pratt eventually came to pass. Parley was able to pay off his debts, his wife bore him a son, and the people in the Toronto area accepted the gospel, which spread into the regions round about.[17] Theodore Turley would contribute to its dissemination in the area and would later help fulfill the last portion of Heber's prophecy, that "from the things growing out of this mission, shall the fullness of the gospel spread into England, and cause a great work to be done in that land."[18]

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Notes

1. Theodore Turley, Autobiography (ca. 1840), MS 13176, fd. 1, Historical Department, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah, hereafter abbreviated as HDC. Consistent with scholarly practice, I have retained the original spelling of the sources quoted in this article.

2. For a brief sketch of Parley's life and a list of biographical sources, see Larry C. Porter, "Pratt, Parley Parker," in *Encyclopedia of Mormonism* (New York: Macmillan, 1992), 1116-17. For a canonized account of key events related to the establishment of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, see "Joseph Smith—History" in *The Pearl of Great Price: A Selection from the Revelations, Translations, and Narrations of Joseph Smith, First Prophet Seer, and Revelator to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* (Salt Lake City: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1981), 47-59.

3. Parley P. Pratt, [Jr.], ed., *Autobiography of Parley Parker Pratt* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1980), 130-31.

4. Pratt, 131-35.

5. Pratt, 135-36; "Laying the Foundation in Canada," *Deseret News,* July 31, 1937, Church Section, 1.

6. Pratt, 136.

7. Pratt, 136-39; Lethbridge Stake Historical Committee and Melvin S. Tagg, *A History of the Mormon Church in Canada* (Lethbridge, Alberta: Lethbridge Herald, 1968), 9.

8. Pratt, 142.

9. Pratt, 143-51.

10. "Laying the Foundation," 1; Isabella Russell Johnson, History of Isaac Russell, 2-4, Brigham Young University Library, Provo, Utah; Joseph Fielding, Journal, vol. 1, pp. 5-7, HDC; Pratt, 151-52.

11. "Laying the Foundation," 1; Johnson, 6.

12. Turley, Autobiography.

13. "The Articles of Faith," no. 7, in *The Pearl of Great Price,* 60. Although these articles were not published as such until 1842, they are a good restatement of Church beliefs about spiritual gifts before that time.

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14. Typescript of *Christian Examiner* 11 (Dec. 1838): 355, HDC. The *Christian Examiner* was a monthly publication of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

15. Fielding, 6-7.

16. Turley, Autobiography. This account is the only one in Theodore's own hand to relate his conversion, but it is rather ambiguous in some of its details. Theodore wrote that "Elder P. P. Pratt came to Canadia baptized Elder Isac Russell he came to my house & Said he had been notified in a Dreem that he must Come to my house & preach I received the truth the first time I heard it & my Wife allso was baptized the 1 of March 1837 Confirmed & ordained under the hand of Elder P. Pratt as Priest."

There is no question that Parley P. Pratt ordained Theodore to be a priest weeks later (see next newsletter article). Some persons have apparently assumed that Parley also performed the baptisms and confirmations, but he apparently was not in Canada on March 1 when the baptisms occurred. Pratt, 158-67. Although it is possible Theodore and Frances were baptized on March 1 and confirmed much later, it seems more likely they were confirmed shortly after being baptized, and the most likely candidate to have performed both ordinances is Isaac Russell.

17. Pratt, 165.

18. Pratt, 131.

Who are We?

last

Back-row (L to R): Henry Eyring Turley (10 or 11 yrs), and Clarence Franklin Turley (12 or 13 yrs)

Front-row (L to R): Harold Emerson Turley (1 or 2 yrs), Edward Vernon Turley (15 or 16 yrs), Theresa Turley (3 or 4 yrs)

children of
Edward Franklin Turley and Ida Elizabeth Eyring Turley
most likely taken in El Paso. Texas

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Tribute

Edward Franklin Turley & Ida Elizabeth Eyring

The romance and courtship of the parents of these children in the photo, Edward Franklin Turley and Ida Elizabeth Eyring, began in Colonia Juarez in 1890 when Ida moved there with her parents from St. George, Utah. Edward's family had moved to Mexico a few years earlier from Beaver, Utah and Arizona, and his family was fairly well established in Mexico when Ida arrived. Ed & Ida became acquainted, courted over a three year period, and then were married in the Salt Lake Temple on October 11, 1893. The trip to Salt Lake City was equally enjoyed by Ida's brother, Edward C. Eyring, and his bride to be, Caroline Romney. Chaperon for the trip was Ida's mother, Mary Bommeli Eyring. After the double wedding, they all returned to Mexico and the two young couples established their homes in Colonia Juarez.

On June 13th, 1894, Ida gave birth to their first-born son, Edward Franklin Turley, but he died that same day. Their next child was a daughter, born on May 16, 1895, Ida Elizabeth Turley. On December 16, 1895, Edward was ordained a Seventy in the 99th Quorum of Seventies by Edward Stevenson, of the First Council of the Seventy. On May 5, 1897 Ida's husband, Edward, received a notice from Box B in Salt Lake City calling him to serve as a missionary in the Northern States Mission. Prior to his leaving, they then had a son, Edward Vernon, who was born May 30, 1897 which was just prior to Edward's departure on June 14, 1897, when he left for Salt Lake City, Utah to be set apart for his mission.

On the 2nd July, 1897, Edward arrived in Cincinnati, Ohio. Edward was diligent in his work; he studied and worked hard to succeed in the mission field. While he was on this mission, Edward's and Ida's daughter, Ida Elizabeth Turley, passed away on February 18, 1899. According to Ida, Ed later informed her that he knew by dream that their daughter had died. The truths of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ gave comfort to Edward and Ida; their temple marriage for time and all eternity assured them that little Ida and their first-born, Edward, would both be as much a part of their eternal family as their other children.

In spite of his grief, Edward continued to work hard in the mission field. His diligence was recognized and he was given special responsibilities. Edward was away from home for over 2 years. During that time the challenge for his financial support belonged to Ida. She states in her journal that she worked hard to sustain her husband in the mission field as well as to support her little family. To quote Ida, "I worked hard caring for our orchard, sold fruit and managed to send him money to keep him on his mission." Edward received his missionary release on Sept. 26, 1899, and returned to his little family in Colonia Juarez. His task now was to assume his responsibility as provider for the family. Ed was a hard worker and enjoyed success in his farming, horticulture, and other work and business activities. Both Edward and Ida were active in their Church work serving in various capacities over the years and would be noted for their faithfulness by those with whom they were associated.

Four more children would bless their marriage: Clarence Franklin Turley was born on July 16, 1900; Henry Eyring Turley on June 7, 1902; Theresa Turley on March 21, 1909; and, Harold Emerson Turley on November 22, 1911.

The next year after the birth of their last-born they experienced the outbreak of a Mexican revolution which brought, without much warning, a general exodus by the Mormons; the Church's General Authorities had recommended that the colonists leave and return to the United States so as to avoid bloodshed. They reluctantly left July 28 and 29, 1912. Many of those exiled from Mexico stayed in El Paso, Texas, while others dispersed to various locations mostly in the western part of the United States. Edward's second wife, Annie Sariah Martineau Walser, was reluctant to return to Mexico, therefore, she took her family and they went north to Logan, Utah settling in an area they considered to be much more secure and peaceful than Mexico. Five children had resulted from this plural marriage of Edward to the widow Annie Walser.

After about two years of exile in El Paso, Edward and Ida and their family returned to Colonia Juarez on Sept. 16, 1914 to reclaim their properties and get back to the challenging business of converting the wilderness of northern Chihuahua into one of Mexico's agricultural show places.

There is not space here to elaborate, but the surviving five children of Ed & Ida grew to adulthood and have all made their distinctive contributions to society along with their eternal companions. Edward Vernon settled permanently in El Paso, where he married Winifred Louise Roche, and they had a family of five boys. Clarence Franklin followed in his father's footsteps and with his bride, Anna Tenney, remained in Colonia Juarez where they raised a family of five boys and four girls. Henry Eyring settled permanently in San Antonio, Texas, where he and his wife, Louise Robinson, along with their son and three daughters were a strengthening influence for the Church and the College there. Theresa along with her husband, Edgar Wagner, and their two sons and two daughters, remained in Mexico and would ultimately make their home in Colonia Dublan after a period in Chihuahua. Harold Emerson and his wife, Ireta Pierce, made El Paso, Texas, their home and they were blessed with four boys and three girls; Harold maintained his Mexican citizenship until recently so as to be able to carry on business and Church activities in Mexico.

Ed & Ida were wonderful parents. They set an example worthy of emulation by all. Edward enjoyed sports; he loved the game of baseball and was remembered as a heavy hitter. He loved to make home runs. Edward had beautiful handwriting, and was an model of exemplary service in the Church. For about 35 years he served faithfully as the ward clerk in Colonia Juarez, a position that would utilize his superior penmanship and he set an example of being places on time. Ida was known for her flowers. In her diary she stated: "Where ever we have lived, we have planted fruit trees, flowers, shrubs and roses; it would not be home without flowers."

With regard to the children in the photo above, Ida said the following: "The Lord has blessed us with good children and I am very thankful for his blessing and hope and pray that they may ever live true to the faith and live honorable righteous lives." I believe their hopes have been realized and their prayers answered.

-- Compiled & written by Richard E. Turley, a grandson, December 31, 1995.

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN ADDRESS LABELS

As we are in the learning and growing stages, we have found that it was necessary to put somewhere on the address label information concerning the expiration of the subscription to the newsletter. When you send your $10.00 donation for the newsletter we will mark on your label one year ahead of the month that you submitted. Any other donation above the $10.00 will go towards research unless you mark otherwise. (as in a gift for someone else) We have tried to back track the information since we started the newsletter. Hopefully we are close enough to the correct month. Please be patient with us as we learn and grow!

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Lets get Acquainted

Let's get acquainted with: Barbra Pearl Turley Smith, dau. of George W. & Pearl G. Turley. I was born the last of 7 children on Aug. 2, 1954. Mom was very sick with me & at birth I only weighed 3 1/2 lbs. I was born with what mom called "Turley Fingers", where the 3rd finger is shorter than normal & the 4th finger is the longest. I also have 2 sisters & 1 brother that have it. If anyone has more information or has the same type of fingers, it would be interesting to know some more about it. Mom had said at one time that she had heard of someone doing research on the fingers & that it occurs every once in awhile in the Turley line. She also said that they had found the person with this characteristic to be artistic and creative...h-m-m-Anyways, I was born in Holbrook, Az. (we lived in Woodruff) & at the age of 3 we moved to Louisiana where Dad managed a cattle ranch for Uncle Marion Turley. At 6 years of age we moved back to Holbrook where I grew up & graduated in 1972.

I then moved to Thatcher, Az. and attended E.A.J.C. I had alot of fun while there, being the school mascot (a Gila Monster!) & my 2nd year I was YA Rep. for the college branch & also LDSSA secretary. I also worked part-time at a photo studio, that helped me get interested in photography. I got my B.S. (Barbra Smith) degree by meeting, dating, & marrying Roger Raymond Smith on Aug. 16, 1974. We immediately left for Davenport, Ia. where Roger attended Chiropractic School.

In June of 1976 we flew back to Az. and surprised Mom & Dad to be sealed in the Arizona Temple on June 15, 1976. (They thought we were going to go to the Washington Temple.) Roger graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic on Oct. 1, 1977 & then we moved to Phoenix, where he set up practice.

Our only daughter Kymberlee Kay, was born Jan. 7, 1979 and our only son, Kurtis Kyle was born Mar. 28, 1980. In 1981 we moved to Mesa & have been in Mesa ever since. In 1989 we moved Roger's business to Gilbert, but it was not good & at this time his office is in our home. In 1989 I started working full time in the Media Center at Longfellow Elementary, which I enjoy working with the kids. As for my church callings I've mostly been in Young Womens, some Primary, & am currently on the Homemaking Committee & am always in the library. I started a hobby about 15 years ago that over the years has developed into a 2nd job for me....

tole-painting. Roger has gotten pretty good at cutting out my projects & I paint & sell it mostly at the school. I feel my most crowning achievement has been my 2 kids. Kym has been dancing at "Stars" for 7 or 8 years, in which we have been able to travel to places we normally wouldn't have been able to see--Japan, Hawaii, San Francisco, L.A., Nevada & around Arizona. She also have been a good kid with great grades! My favorite son, Kurtis, is a very quiet, shy teenager with a talent for computers & drawing, he hopes to do some major damage to Nintendo when he's older!

When Helen asked me to help with this Newsletter that Jay Turley had started, I thought I'd just be helping her every once in awhile...I should of known...Nothing is simple with Helen! I'm glad for her asking me & thinking that I could do this. Who knew a year ago how big this project would turn out to be! This really has been a growing experience (in more ways than one) & I hope you are patient with me & my learning as I go...

If there is anyone, anyone at all!, who has time, computer knowledge, and would love this job...(& receive extra blessings).. I'm willing to pass it on, just call!!

Genealogical Work

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS

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Getting to know YOU

"BLESS GRANDPA TURLEY"
by Kate Howell Morris

"Bless Daddy and Momma, bless Stacey, bless Chad, bless Biscuit, AND BLESS GRANDPA TURLEY . . .in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen."

Having our beagle puppy, Biscuit, blessed along with the rest of our immediate family was common practice ending our evening family prayers, but when our youngest daughter, two and one half year old Mary Kate, blessed "Grandpa Turley", it came as a great surprise to all of us.

"Grandpa Turley" was John Andrew Turley, my husband's, grandfather. Dick's memories of his grandfather are sketchy at best as he died when he was a young boy of six. So you can imagine our astonishment of our little Mary Kate blessing a member of our family we didn't really know or even speak of that I ever remember.

We probably would have dismissed the puzzling blessing in Mary Kate's prayer completely from our recollection, except for the fact that each time it was her turn to lead with family prayer, she continued to bless Grandpa Turley. The rest of us at one time or another would open one eye focused on Mary Kate as we tried to analyze her sincerity about blessing her Great-Great Grandpa Turley who had died many, many years before she was even born. We all found her to be very reverent and sincere when offering her innocent prayer unto the Lord and soon accepting her blessing request of Grandpa Turley as commonplace.

I was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus C Christ of Latter-day Saints in September, 1977. One year later, Dick and I with our three children, Stacey, 8, Chad, 6, and Mary Kate, 3 1/2, traveled to Utah to have our family sealed together in the Salt Lake Temple. Dick's parents, Gary and Thelma Morris, and his sister and brother-in-law, Susan and Bob Hanes, had met us there to witness this joyous event.

In the motel the evening before the sealing, I was sharing the story with my father-in-law of the amazing face of how Mary Kate continued to bless "Grandpa Turley". By now, she didn't ask that he be blessed every time she took her turn to pray, but still fairly often.

My father-in-law, Gary Morris, was quiet at first as he thoughtfully contemplated the impact of his small granddaughter's prayer. Then. through his wisdom, he offered his summation. He said he felt that Mary Kate had been very closed to John Andrew Turley in the Spirit World. When Mary Kate came to our family on June 13, 1975, she had to say her temporary good-byes to her beloved great-great grandfather. Because of her tender years and shielded earthly experiences, Mary Kate was still able to remember him and obviously thought of him and missed him very much.. Then Gary added that as Mary Kate grows older, she will probably not remember him in her prayers as often; then not at all.

One very dear member of our family we were blessed to know was Dick's Grandmother Turley, Electa Drucilla Westover Turley. She is John Andrew Turley's wife, widowed for more

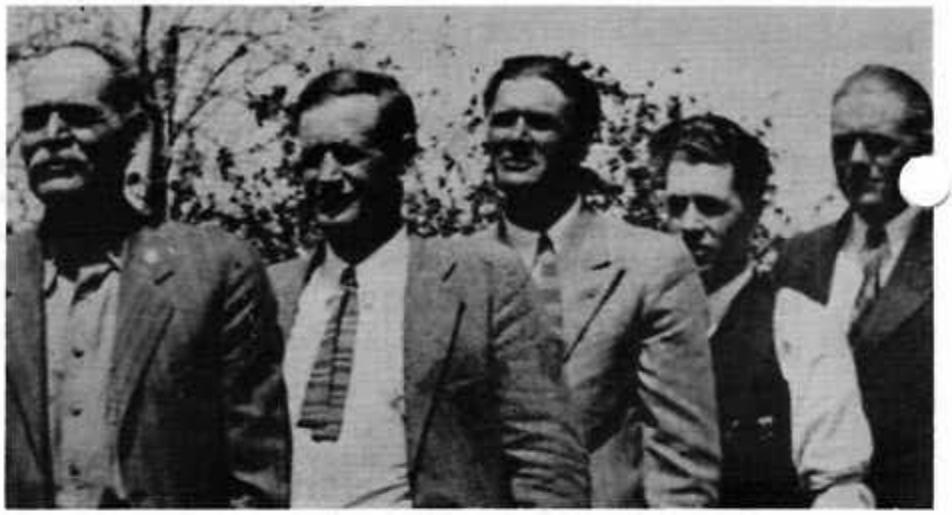
than thirty years. We all loved her so much. She was not well her last year of life before her passing in August, 1981. As we would remember Grandma Turley in our family prayers, Mary Kate, 6 1/2 once again began to include Grandpa Turley in her prayers occasionally. Upon Grandma Turley's death, Mary Kate prayed her last mentioning of Grandpa Turley when she told Heavenly Father that she was grateful that Grandma Turley didn't have to suffer any longer and had joined Grandpa Turley in Heaven where they could be happy and together once more.

Update Mary Kate: Mary Kate Morris married Darren Seth Mattice on September 3, 1994, in Safford, Arizona. They are presently making their home in Houston Texas. Mary Kate works at Bank One and Darren is working and pursuing a career in Funeral Services. They recently were sealed in the Mesa Temple on November 24, 1995.

Mary Katherine Morris Mattice
June 13, 1975

John Andrew Turley
April 12, 1885 to
May 5, 1951

Who are We?
new



Decendants of Theodore Turley working at the

Family
History
Center

Mesa, Arizona

Front row: left to right

ROY McClellan & Wife, WANDA Smith
VERDELL Button, & ANITA Rehies

Back Row: left to right

Claude Despain, LOREINE Despain,
Roger Button & Paul Rehies

ANCESTERAL LINE

ROY & ANITA-Ester-Isaac
VERDELL & LOREINE-Alma-Isaac
WANDA-Theodore Wilford-Isaac

Theodore Turley Family Organization

Suggested price for the Newsletter and funds for research is $10.00 per year. Anyone desiring to make additional contributuions for research and additional blessings is invited to do so. Send all payments, suggestions, faith-promoting experiences or other newsletter contributions to: BARBRA SMITH, 1347 S. RICO CIR., MESA, AZ, 85204. Make checks payable to THEODORE TURLEY FAMILY ORGANIZATION. Just fill out the coupon below, mail and you will be on the mailing list.

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Suggestions & Notes

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