

THE PERRY PAPERS

ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES IS FOUND THE STORY OF THE PERRY FAMILY, STARTING WITH ASANEL AND POLLY CHADWICK PERRY AND CONTINUING THROUGH THE LIVES OF STEPHEN CHADWICK PERRY AND HIS WIVES. MORE CORRECTLY IT IS THE HISTORY, BASED MOSTLY ON PAPERS AND PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE, OF ASANEL AND POLLY PERRY AND THEIR CHILDREN, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THEIR SON, STEPHEN CHADWICK PERRY WHOSE JOURNALS AND WRITINGS ARE MORE READILY AVAILABLE AND WHO IS THE ANCESTOR OF THE COMPILER.

THE FIRST OF THE CHILDREN OF ASANEL AND POLLY IS ISAAC, BORN IN 1807, WHO GAVE PROPERTY TO THE CHURCH; WHO WISHED TO WORK ON THE HAUVOO TEMPLE; WHOSE FAMILY LEFT HIM BECAUSE OF HIS BELIEF IN THE CHURCH; WHO LIVED FOR A TIME IN UTAH; WHO FELT THAT CHURCH MEMBERS HAD MISTREATED HIM; AND WHO LIVED A LONELY LIFE ON THE WEST COAST. ALMOST CERTAINLY HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH.

THEN THERE WAS LUCY ANN PERRY, BORN IN 1809, WHO LIVED IN MENTOR, OHIO, WITH HER HUSBAND, ISAAC STORY, AND WHOSE LETTERS ARE FOUND IN THIS COMPILATION.

NEXT CAME WILLARD PERRY, BORN IN 1810, WHO LIVED IN OHIO AND LATER IN BEDFORD, MISSOURI, AND WHO LATE IN LIFE SPENT A SHORT TIME IN UTAH VISITING THE FAMILY AND TAKING UP A HOMESTEAD WHICH HE GAVE UP SOON AFTER RETURNING TO THE EAST.

THE FOURTH CHILD WAS WILLIAM CHADWICK PERRY, BORN IN 1812, WHO LIVED IN NARROWS, PRAIRIE PARK, AND STEWARTSVILLE, MISSOURI. BOTH HE AND HIS WIFE WROTE FAIRLY OFTEN TO THE FAMILY IN UTAH.

NUMBER FIVE WAS ORRIN PERRY, BORN IN 1814, WHO LIVED AT BATH OHIO, AND LATER NEAR HIS SISTER LUCY IN MENTOR, OHIO.

HIRAM PERRY, BORN IN 1816, IS THE SIXTH CHILD. HE IS REFERRED TO AS LIVING NEAR QUINCY, ILLINOIS, IN 1840, BUT HE IS NOT MENTIONED AGAIN UNTIL 1862 WHEN HE APPEARS TO HAVE DIED. BY 1870 HIS WIFE EVE WAS AGAIN WIDOWED AND WAS LIVING IN WARREN, ILLINOIS; SHE WROTE TO THE FAMILY IN UTAH OCCASIONALLY.

THE SEVENTH CHILD WAS STEPHEN CHADWICK PERRY, BORN IN 1818. HIS CORRESPONDENCE, MISSIONARY JOURNALS, AND HISTORICAL WRITINGS CONTRIBUTE A MAJOR SHARE TO THIS COMPILATION. HE AND HIS FIVE WIVES LIVED IN SPRINGVILLE, UTAH.

THE EIGHTH CHILD, PHILANDER JACKSON PERRY, WAS

BORN IN 1821. HE BELONGED TO THE CHURCH AND LIVED IN PROVO, UTAH. UNFORTUNATELY WE HAVE NONE OF HIS CORRESPONDENCE.

NUMBER NINE WAS LEWIS PERRY WHO WAS BORN IN 1825 AND WHO DIED IN INFANCY.

THE LAST WAS POLLY MARIA PERRY, BORN IN 1832, WHO CAME TO UTAH WITH HER HUSBAND WILLIAM SMITH IN THE EARLY DAYS AND LIVED HER LIFE IN SPRINGVILLE, UTAH.

THESE ARE THE PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS IN THIS STORY.

TWO FEATURES ARE NOTICEABLE IN EACH ONE OF THOSE WHOSE CORRESPONDENCE APPEARS HEREIN: THEIR DEEP FAITH IN THE GOODNESS OF GOD AND THEIR LOVE FOR THEIR PARENTS AND FAMILY. ONLY THREE OR FOUR OF THE CHILDREN JOINED THE CHURCH. THERE WERE DIFFERENCES IN THEIR BELIEFS — POLYGAMY WAS A BITTER PILL FOR THOSE WHO REMAINED IN THE EAST. BUT THEIR UNDERLYING RELIGIOUS DEVOTION AND THEIR LOVE FOR THEIR FAMILY SHINE THROUGH ALL THE DARKNESS, LONELINESS, AND SEPARATION OF THE FAMILY LIFE.

THIS COMPILATION CONSISTS OF THREE PARTS.

THE FIRST THREE PAGES CONTAIN EARLY FAMILY RECORDS LISTING SOME OF THE FAMILY MEMBERS WHOSE WRITINGS AND STORIES APPEAR LATER.

THE NEXT SEVERAL PAGES, BEGINNING ON PAGE 4, CONTAIN HISTORY WRITTEN AT LATER TIMES. THESE PAGES ARE PRESENTED TO GIVE AN OVERALL VIEW OF THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE WHOSE LETTERS WILL BE GIVEN LATER.

THE MAJOR PART OF THIS COMPILATION BEGINS ON PAGE 13. THIS PART CONSISTS OF COPIES OF ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE, CERTIFICATES, AND OTHER PAPERS. THIS SECTION IS ARRANGED IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER ACCORDING TO THE DATE EACH ITEM WAS WRITTEN.

THE COMPILATION DOES NOT INCLUDE DEEDS, TAX NOTICES, BUSINESS AND LEGAL PAPERS, GENEALOGICAL DETAILS, OR THE NUMEROUS PATRIARCHAL BLESSINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY WHO JOINED THE CHURCH.

AN ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE (EXCEPT IN ONE OR TWO INSTANCES WHERE IT WAS NECESSARY TO RELY ON COPIES OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS) TO PRESERVE THE ORIGINAL SPELLINGS, PUNCTUATION, LINGO, AND OTHER CORRECTIONS OF THE ORIGINAL SOURCE DOCUMENTS. THUS THE ERRORS FOUND IN THIS COMPILATION ARE NOT ALL THOSE OF THE COMPILER-TYPIST.

MANY OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS ARE BADLY WORN, TORN, FADED, SLOTTED, WATER-SOAKED, AND EVEN MOUSE-EATEN. FACSIMILIES OF SOME OF THE MORE INTER-

ESTING AND LEGIBLE PAPERS ARE INCLUDED HEREIN. THE COMPILER HAS INSERTED NOTES OR INDICATED INABILITY TO READ ITEMS WHERE NECESSARY; THESE ARE ALWAYS ENCLOSED IN PARENTHESES AND ARE FOLLOWED BY HIS INITIALS: E.A.J.

THE COMPILER HOPES THAT, AS FAMILY MEMBERS CURL UP BEFORE THEIR FIRES ON COLD SUNDAY AFTERNOONS TO READ THESE PAGES, A HEALTHY DEGREE OF RESPECT, ADMIRATION, APPRECIATION, AND LOVE WILL BE GENERATED FOR THESE ANCESTORS AND RELATIVES OF OURS, THAT THE STORY OF THE LIVES OF THESE WHO HAVE LED THE WAY AND GONE ON BEFORE WILL INSPIRE US TO LIVE MORE NOBLE LIVES, AND, ABOVE ALL, THAT FAMILY MEMBERS WILL FIND ENJOYMENT AND ENTERTAINMENT IN READING THESE PERRY PAPERS.

E.A.J.

OREM, UTAH
17 JUNE 1972

P.S. THE FIRST PART OF THIS COMPILATION IS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER AS NOTED ABOVE. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ALWAYS COMES TO LIGHT TOO LATE TO BE INCLUDED, BUT AFTER ALL OUR SEARCHING IT DIDN'T SEEM POSSIBLE THAT ANYTHING NEW WOULD APPEAR VERY SOON. HOWEVER, EVEN BEFORE HAVING THE COMPILATION PUBLISHED, WE HAVE FOUND ANOTHER MISSIONARY JOURNAL OF STEPHEN C. PERRY, THIS ONE FOR 1848 - 1849. THIS JOURNAL AND A FEW OTHER ITEMS APPEAR IN THE SECTION FOR ADDENDA BEGINNING ON PAGE 59. AS ANY OTHER ITEMS ARE FOUND, THEY WILL BE ADDED ALSO, OF COURSE OUT OF CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER.

E.A.J. 6 JULY 1972