

CHAPTER 4. SHOULDERING THE LOAD: 1856 to 1882

At Miles' death, Franklin took over as head of three families, a heavy load for a twenty-seven-year-old to shoulder.

But to backtrack just a little, it will be seen that Miles died in the midst of the Church's expansion plan for the cattle herds that belonged to Brigham Young and the members of the Church. It remained for Franklin and now Gilbert Weaver to take over the management of the herds after the death of Miles. Brigham Young directed that Franklin move the herds to Cache Valley.

The following will give the background of the plan to move the Church's cattle herds into Cache Valley.

1855 -1856:

In the year 1854, Brigham Young learned of a beautiful valley north of Great Salt Lake City known as Willow Valley, where feed and water were plentiful. The next year, 1855, John T. Garr, with three of his brothers, two Weaver brothers, two Baker boys, John C. Dowdle, Isiah Edwards and others under the leadership of Martin Ensign and Bryant Stringham, were sent to this valley with two thousand (2,000) head of cattle belonging to the Church, which they were to feed and care for. They located near a spring about three miles south of what is now the City of Logan, ... and here established a ranch which was known as the Elk Horn Ranch, named after a stopping place which the Saints used as they crossed the plains. This spring still marks the spot and some of the posts on which the house was built are still there. [1925]¹

August and September 1855 - Cache Valley, Utah:

The brothers, John T., Abel and Ben Garr; Franklin and Miles Weaver; ... were among the main herders and owners who drove livestock into Cache Valley, during August and September, 1855. By fall nearly 3,000 head of cattle and horses had been driven into the valley. About 2,000 head of the stock belonged to the church... John

Riggs, a youth, is reported to have come into the valley with the Weaver herders. The Garr boys and the two Weaver brothers had previously herded church cattle along with their own on the Promontory.²

Franklin and Miles then returned to the Utah Lake Valley and to their other responsibilities. For tough outdoorsmen like the Weaver brothers who really felt "at home" on the range, the distances they frequently travelled must not have seemed too great after their experiences with the Mormon Battalion, especially if they had good horses to ride. For this reason, some of the records may seem a bit confusing as to the location of Franklin on various dates, as he was back and forth to Cache Valley more than once.³ We can also get a picture of the hardships suffered by the men who lived and worked out of doors. Miles had never been as robust as Franklin, and the strain of the many demands upon his strength proved too much for Miles.

... the church herd was moved to Utah County in 1854 and thence from Utah County--and not from Antelope Island, as has been assumed--to Cache in 1855...Possibly the Utah Lake range had been badly depleted in 1854. This would certainly explain why only seven months after receiving a herd ground in Utah Valley, the Weavers and their cattle were at the Elkhorn in Cache.⁴

Winter 1855 - Cache Valley, Utah:

After the men and cattle were settled and [a] house completed, Martin Ensign and Bryant Stringham and some of the other men returned to Salt Lake [Franklin and Miles were among those that returned]. The men left in charge of the cattle did not have sufficient time to cut enough wild grass for feed as winter set in very early, the snow was four feet deep on the level and it was one of the coldest winters ever known in the valley. The cattle perished by the hundreds, and in the spring of 1856 only 450 animals survived. For years afterwards the bones of these cattle could be seen, some piled in heaps and some scattered over the land. Additional cattle and implements were subsequently brought to the ranch. The Garr brothers brought their sister to keep house for them, and in the year 1859 the wives of Franklin and Gilbert Weaver joined them. Gradually additional settlers came in, living in dug-outs until homes could be built.⁵

Winter of 1855-6 - Cache Valley, Utah:

Though Franklin and Miles had tragic difficulties of their own, those who remained at the Elkhorn Ranch were snowbound for the entire winter.⁶ Dowdle and Garr made a midwinter trip to bring supplies to the stranded ranchers, and Dowdle made a second trip to and from Brigham City, more than thirty miles through the mountains. Both suffered from frostbite. Mrs. Warner, a chronicler of early events, recalled that on Dowdle's second return there were "great wounds on his legs where wolves had actually attacked him as he fought his way slowly through the canyons,"⁷ probably on snowshoes.

Nevertheless, the Cache Valley settlers were there to stay. The first child of Mormon settlers, Eliza Cache Stolworthy, was born in the valley July 19, 1856.⁸

8 May 1856 - Salt Lake City, Utah:

Franklin married his brother's widow, Sarah Clark Weaver.⁹ Also in a ceremony performed by Heber C. Kimball in the Endowment House, Franklin stood as proxy for Miles as the two widows, both named Sarah,¹⁰ were sealed to their deceased husband.¹¹

9 May 1856 - Salt Lake City, Utah:

Franklin married his brother's other widow, Sarah Holmes Weaver.¹² With Rachel as his first wife, Franklin was now head of a polygamous family with three wives and eight children.

22 May 1856 - Provo, Utah:

Sarah Jane Weaver, daughter of Miles and Sarah Clark Weaver died "from croup," a respiratory infection, at the age of five.¹³

29 May 1856 - Provo, Utah:

John Rufus Weaver [or John Reed Weaver, according to Ancestral File] Weaver is born to Franklin and Rachel Weaver. He died 19 months later. Perhaps he was a namesake his uncle, John Rufus Stoddard.

12 July 1856 - Salt Lake City, Utah:

Captain [of the Utah Militia] Conover's daughter, Sarah, married Gilbert Weaver, younger brother of Franklin and Miles. The wedding was performed by Brigham Young in the Endowment House.

9 March 1857 - Provo, Utah:

Josephine Octavia Ann Weaver was born to Sarah Clark Weaver.¹⁴

11 November 1857 - Farmington, Davis County, Utah:

Miles Franklin is born to Franklin and Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver. Once again Franklin has returned to the work that first took him to Davis County in 1852.

20 November 1857 - Provo, Utah:

John Rufus [or Reed] Weaver, infant son of Franklin and Rachel Weaver died.¹⁵

19 February 1858 - Provo, Utah:

Frances Cecelia Weaver is born to Franklin and Rachel Reed Weaver.¹⁶

March 1857 - Washington, D.C.:

Shortly after his inauguration, President Buchanan appointed Alfred Cumming of Georgia, governor of Utah, to replace Brigham Young. Also, in the mistaken belief that the Mormons were in rebellion against the federal government, Buchanan sent along a large military force to ensure the new governor's authority.¹⁷ However, Buchanan failed to officially notify Brigham Young, governor of Utah Territory that he was to be replaced, or that troops were on their way. The reaction, when the news finally arrived in Salt Lake, was that the people "who had made their last retreat"¹⁸ were prepared to defend their homes.

1857 - Salt Lake City, Utah:

The Weaver men, and others, were called to take part in what was called the Echo Canyon War to protect their ten-year-old haven in the "tops of the mountains"¹⁹ from the advance of Johnston's Army. The consequences of misinformation, misunderstanding, and miscalculation resulted in a wasteful military expedition by the United States government. "About eleven hundred men [Mormons] were sent to Echo Canyon, east of Salt Lake City, on the most direct route into the territory."²⁰ Here they prepared a guerilla resistance. Gilbert Weaver "was one of the boys sent to Echo Canyon to burn the grass and ride around the mountain before Johnston's Army came to Utah."²¹

Such exploits succeeded so well in delaying the progress of the army that when General Johnston finally joined his command in November, he realized that it was too late to enter the valley and they must winter at Fort Bridger. By this time the situation of the army was desperate. It took fifteen days to push thirty-five miles through storms and below-zero weather, cattle died by the hundreds, and the soldiers arrived at the fort only to discover that the Mormons had burned the wooden buildings. The stone walls were intact, however, and provided partial shelter for the winter, and the army had enough cattle and supplies to see it through. A major military engagement would have been impossible. Thus ended the only hostilities of the Utah War.²²

Franklin also "took active part"²³ in the Echo Canyon War, also called the Bloodless War, or the Utah War. Nevertheless, over 30,000 Saints moved southward for protection to Provo and further south. If nothing else, it was a great inconvenience and a loss of time, resources and energy.

March to May 1858 - Salt Lake City, Utah:

As the Saints moved south they cached all the stone cut for the Salt Lake Temple and covered the foundations to make it resemble a plowed field. They boxed and carried with them twenty thousand bushels of tithing grain, as well as machinery, equipment and

all the Church records and books." Governor Cummings, who through the intervention and arbitration of Thomas L. Kane had been accepted peacefully, tried persuading them not to withdraw from the Salt Lake Valley, but Brigham Young replied "that if the troops were withdrawn from the territory, the people would stop moving, but that ninety nine percent of the people would rather spend the rest of their lives in the mountains than endure more governmental oppression."²⁴

President Buchanan then sent a peace commission to Utah offering a pardon, which was resented [Mormons were never disloyal Americans] but accepted. "'Buchanan's Blunder' as people were beginning to call it, was effectively whitewashed by a pardon that did not need to be issued, carried by a peace commission that followed an army of occupation that never needed to be sent."²⁵ The U.S. Army did enter the valley, however, and set up Camp Floyd near Cedar Valley. The troops were recalled in 1861 for the Civil War. Soldiers Summit pass on the highway between the cities of Price and Spanish Fork was named for some deserters who lost their lives trying to escape the rugged Utah winter.

1858 - From Provo to Cache Valley:

"Franklin took Rachel and their children to Cache Valley. He began his home at Millville, three miles south of Logan. He was allotted excellent farm land."²⁶ Franklin and his family would no longer call Provo "home." Millville, near Logan, Utah was just beginning to see an influx of settlers. Back in 1855 the idea of moving to Cache Valley was, for Rachel Weaver, a dreaded thought according to family tradition. It would mean a repeat of the hardships of settling again in a new place. It would also mean isolation. But when she learned that Franklin would marry the two widows and that they also would be going to Cache, she was delighted, again, according to family tradition. If she had made Franklin promise not to take any plural wives when she married him, as indicated by Arlen Clement's statement,²⁷ she had changed her mind by the time the prospect of enlarging the family became a reality.

17 January 1859 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Helen Weaver was born to Franklin and Sarah Clark Weaver.²⁸

Spring 1859 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

A sawmill was built, the valley's first, west of the Elkhorn Ranch. It was located to take advantage of the heavy timber in Millville Canyon and a water diversion from the Blacksmith Fork River. In 1932, a Millville historian noted, "Old timers tell of the time when logs, each bearing their owners marks, lined the street leading east from the mill for more than a block and a half waiting their turn to be sawed. The little mill ran night and day to try and catch up with the increasing pile of logs."²⁹ During the summer and fall of that year the mill operators were joined by other settlers and their families--new ones like George W. and George O. Pitkin, and old ones, like Franklin Weaver who had been at the Elkhorn Ranch in 1855.³⁰

22 July 1859 - Milville, Cache County, Utah:

In the summer of 1859 [Franklin] sent for his other two families.³¹ [Sarah Clark Weaver was already in Millville. She had given birth to Helen in January of 1859]. Franklin built three cabins on the same lot, one for each wife. He was determined that they should live as they had been instructed: as one family...this must have been very successful, because second generation descendants of these families are not certain just "who belonged to whom."³²

The Weaver children called their father's other wives "Aunti."³³ "The two Weaver families were now united into one large family and moved to Cache Valley...still working for Brigham Young."³⁴

1860 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Franklin Weaver "was the first married man to settle in Millville with his family."³⁵ "The twelve settlers built twelve houses in two rows, close together for protection. They cut and hauled logs from the high country. They plowed the land, planted and harvested a fair crop in 1860."³⁶ It was the beginning of "Cache Valley fever." Not only from other Utah towns and from eastern United States, but also from the British Isles, Denmark, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, and Italy came Mormon converts to swell the tide of settlement in Cache.³⁷ In March, 1860 the editor of the Deseret News wrote that "hundreds of wagons and teams...have been moving in that direction...[in] the great rush northward by those in search of new homes and better locations."

Part of the colonization effort included planting trees. Shade trees were planted to beautify the environment and fruit trees were planted for food. Trees were also planted for windbreaks and for future fuel. Roads were constructed. Every able-bodied citizen was expected to do his share toward the building and upkeep on roads.³⁸

March or April 1860 - Cache Valley, Utah:

"With the great rush to Cache... both the ranch [Elkhorn] and the mill became centers of new activity... Gilbert Weaver and his son Gilbert, Jr. [who would have been only three years old at that time], settled at the ranch."³⁹

1856 - 1878 - San Bernardino, San Bernardino County, California:

Marinda Bridget Weaver, who very likely, had gone to San Bernardino with her sister, Martha Weaver Stoddard, married James Nowlin Casteel at the Mormon settlement in San Bernardino, California before 1856. Their first child was born 24 August 1856 in San Bernardino, followed by six more children, also born in San Bernardino. However, the couple had lived a short while in Santa Clara, Washington County, Utah. In the Journal History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, under the date of February 10, 1859 the following is

recorded: "James Casteel came from San Bernardino, stopped here at Ft. Clara, put in a small crop, soon got tired: and his wife, Marinda Weaver, said she would go back whether he did or not. Went with intentions of staying in California. Did not report to this Ft. Clara or Santa Clara Branch nor joined the mission." Even though her sister Martha Weaver Stoddard and her husband John Rufus Stoddard encouraged the Casteels to stay in Santa Clara, Marinda, clearly, was not happy there. "Marinda was pregnant and life was so difficult in Santa Clara that she wanted to go back to San Bernardino."⁴⁰ Their next child was born in San Bernardino in April of 1858, and all their other children were born in California as well.⁴¹

11 February 1860 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Tecumsey [or Tecumseh] Weaver, the Indian boy that had been adopted first by Miles, then by Franklin Weaver, was baptized by Elder Thomas Green.

31 May 1860 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Hyrum Weaver was born to Franklin and Rachel Weaver.

27 June 1860 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Franklin and Rachel Weaver and family are received into the Millville Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.⁴² The Ward records show that Franklin took an active part in blessing and in baptizing his children throughout the years. Franklin Weaver also baptized several of his brother Gilbert's children. Franklin and Rachel would later be re-baptized while living in the Millville Ward.⁴³

Edward Tullidge, a noted historian, recorded that

Millville is located four miles south of Logan. It was first settled June 27, 1860 by Ezra T. Benson, Peter Maughan, Joseph G. Hovey, Geo. W. Pitkin, E. Edwards, F. Weaver, Martin Wood and Garr brothers. J. G. Hovey was appointed Bishop. The present bishop, Geo. O. Pitkin, was appointed March 12, 1862. Mail is delivered at Millville three times a week [1889].⁴⁴

August 1860 - United States Federal Census of Cache County, Utah:

The federal census enumerated the entire Franklin Weaver family in one household. Franklin Weaver, age 32, is followed (in order) by Christiana R., age 29, Sarah, age 29, Sarah E. age 23, Franklin 11, Miles F. 10, Christiana M. 10, Zelnora 8, Elmina A. 8, Mary 6, Rebecca 6, Josephine 3, Franklin M. 3, Francis C. 3, Helen six months, Hyrum 3 months. Also in the household was a Jno. R. Morrison, age 18, born in Pennsylvania, who is listed as a servant, and Tecumsey age 15, an Indian born in New York. One can only imagine what life was like in a large household of eighteen people (including three three-year-olds)! Franklin's real wealth was recorded as \$1200 with a personal wealth of \$1060.

In the household next door Gilbert Weaver and family are enumerated.⁴⁵ It is interesting to note that of the 2,605 persons enumerated in the 1860 census of Cache Valley more than seventy-five percent were under the age of thirty. Franklin would have been just over thirty, and Gilbert, under thirty. It was a young, vigorous and growing area.⁴⁶ Two of Gilbert and Franklin's sisters, however, remained in Utah, and one had made a permanent move to California.

1860 - Washington County, Utah:

The United States Federal Census for the town of Santa Clara, Washington County, Utah Territory enumerated the family of Jno. R. Stoddard, age 33, born in Canada, and his wife Martha E. [Weaver, and sister of Franklin], age 23, born in Missouri, with four children, the first of which was born in California.⁴⁷

1860 - Provo, Utah County, Utah:

The United States Federal Census for the City of Provo, Utah County, Utah Territory enumerated David Armstrong age 27, a native of Maryland, and his wife Julia C., [Weaver, and we presume, sister of Franklin] age 18, a native of Missouri. Cecelia married a Mr. Armstrong. They had two daughters. Cecelia died in California.⁴⁸

5 September 1861 - Cache Valley, Utah:

"Just after the valley had come through the biggest Indian scare in its settled history the Nauvoo Legion was reorganized into a formal regimental structure."⁴⁹ This militia was organized under the direction of General Ezra T. Benson and Peter Maughan. Franklin Weaver was captain of the "Minute Men" for Millville.⁵⁰ A Minute Man had to own a horse, sleep with his head on his blanket roll, and have food, gun, saddle and bridle close at hand ready to be up and away at a moment's warning. A Liberty Pole, which could be seen throughout the valley, was erected on the Temple Bench; and a flag system was set up to warn the militia of possible Indian trouble. Albert Humphreys, a member of the Minute Men, wrote: "I enlisted in the military... from 1865 to 1875... I ... was detailed with twenty other men to guard the town of Millville as the Indians were on the war path. We were known as Minutemen. I guarded the town of Millville at night with others so the Indians could not surprise the town while the people slept."⁵¹

Cattle and horses were stolen occasionally, but Brigham Young's policy of feeding the Indians instead of fighting them was more effective. Many times, however, the settlers went without food themselves to do so.⁵² When a muster roll of the Nauvoo Legion in Cache Valley was sent to Salt Lake City in 1863, Franklin Weaver was captain of the Paradise, Hyrum, Millville and Mendon areas.⁵³ Paradise, formerly a town located in Box Elder County, became a part of Cache County Jan. 17, 1863.⁵⁴

1860 - Cache County, Utah:

The Territorial Legislative Assembly created the office of County Superintendent of Schools for Cache county, and that same year the first school teacher was formally hired to teach in the first school in Millville. School was held in Franklin Weaver's home, and the teacher was Charles Wright. He had been a fife player in Johnston's Army and is said to have deserted that army to remain in Utah. He also organized a band in Providence, a settlement just a few miles south and east of Logan. Another teacher in Franklin Weaver's at-home school was Walter Hogge who had worked as a butcher in his native Scotland prior to coming to Utah.⁵⁵ Rachel Weaver taught at the little school as well.⁵⁶



Franklin Weaver home and school in Millville, Cache Co., Utah

Undated:

Franklin Weaver made the first shoes in Millville from leather tanned by Esaias Edwards, another settler.⁵⁷

1860 - Cache Valley, Utah:

The Weaver families were an integral part of community life in Cache Valley. When pleas were made for donations for the poor and destitute immigrants making their way toward Utah, Franklin was among those who contributed. The Church's Quorum of High Priests minute book recorded that Franklin Weaver made a donation to Pres. John Young of \$6.00, paid in wheat.⁵⁸ Continuing from the minute book:

*Feb. 4, 1861 - J. H. Martineau spoke upon general principles and of having confidence that those who had [agreed] to furnish the teams and wagons should be blessed tenfold. He prophesied the spirit of prophecy will continue with the quorum of High Priests in Logan...Pres. Dille appointed ... brethren to preach tomorrow... at Millville.*⁵⁹

Franklin continued his generosity, contributing a team and wagon for these purposes.

10 February 1861 - Cache Valley, Utah:

"The first call was made for teams to go to Missouri river to bring emigrants that would be coming to Utah. Five teams started April 10."⁶⁰

11 February 1861 - Cache Valley, Utah:

*The missionaries sent out yesterday reported as follows...at Smithfield the majority are trying to do well. A few of the ablest men there, 3 or 4, did not do anything for the gathering of the poor... Were received quite coolly. Got the privilege of speaking by asking for it. Raising teams a hard drag. Raised 2 yoke of oxen. Wm. Steele had a good time at Millville. Raised two yoke of oxen and 1 wagon.*⁶¹

It is possible that this may have been the yoke of oxen and wagon that belonged to Franklin Weaver which was later lost.

3 March 1862 - Cache Valley, Utah:

Again, from the Logan High Priests Quorum: "In consequence of a notice being received from headquarters yesterday respecting sending teams to fetch the poor from the east, a meeting at of the quorum was appointed tonight...."⁶² Many stepped forward to help with teams, wagons and provisions. That it proved to be a hardship on some is evidence in the minutes of the meeting of:

24 February 1864 - Cache Valley, Utah:

Logan High Priests Quorum:

Pres. Dille spoke upon the Gathering of Israel. Said the Lord intended to gather them and this Quorum has met tonight to counsel how we can help him. He then invited the brethren to express their feelings upon the subject. Tho. E. Ricks said in reference to sending back teams that what he had got was at the will of the Bishop. The authorities would not take anything to send back if it would do more towards building up the Kingdom at home. He felt that our Bishop would ask for nothing but what was right and it is right for us to feel free and if our teams are wanted it is all right. Joel Ricks said before he left Nauvoo he with the rest of the brethren made a covenant not to cease their exertions so long as a Saint remained ungathered and I feel that that covenant is still binding.⁶³

16 March 1864 - Cache Valley, Utah:

Again at the quorum meeting

...the first part of the time was spent in general conversation about outfitting for the plains... Pres. Dille spoke of the scarcity of wheat. Hoped it would be a warning to all to take care of their wheat in the future....Ruben Gates spoke of the condition of some of the Saints in being short of bread but through willfully spending it for things of a secondary importance.⁶⁴

1862-1865:

The foregoing excerpts document the background for the following: One of the stories his descendants tell about Franklin Weaver is an incident that supposedly took place in Brigham Young's office, but very likely it was during a visit of the Church president to Cache Valley.

Evidently Franklin had loaned the Church a wagon and a team of horses which had been lost in one of the rescue missions for which it was intended. Grandfather Franklin had come to the Prophet to inquire about it and was told that there was little hope of recovering the wagon and team. This displeased Franklin and according to the story, Brigham Young reacted by say, `Well now, Brother Weaver, I suppose you're going to apostatize.!' At this Franklin retorted, `I'll see you in hell first, Brigham, before I'll apostatize.!' This story has always delighted his descendants as much for his spunk as for his loyalty to the Church.⁶⁵

1861, Cache Valley, Utah:

Cache Valley was settled before the "Word of Wisdom" had crystalized into a rigid prohibition against the use of alcohol, tobacco, tea and coffee. Some people were slow to change their habits. Even Brigham Young did not give up chewing tobacco until late 1860. "Elder E. T.

Benson and J. B. Ricks having returned from G. S. L. City, Br. Benson rose and gave an interesting history of his trip to G.S. L. City of the doings of the Legislature and of the signs of the times. Said Pres. B. Young has quit chewing tobacco and sternly reproves drunkenness."⁶⁶ Others had been raised on the frontier where drink and roughness were the rule rather than the exception. So the stigma against alcoholic beverages was not strict, and was even considered a necessity to protect one from the extreme cold of winter. Temperatures could reach forty below zero in winter. "The Church authorities were rather easy on the young fellows, in most cases, although if they attained any degree of drunkenness, they were expelled from the dances and had to offer apologies in priesthood meeting."⁶⁷

However, it would not be many years before the injuncture against alcohol was solidified into a strict prohibition for Mormons. In 1889 Edward Tullidge made some comments about the use of alcohol when he described life in the adjoining Bear Lake County: "Up to the advent of the railroad the morality of the people was strictly in accord with the teaching of their religion. There are a few places on the line of the railroad where whisky is sold, otherwise it cannot be obtained in the county. Till the last few years, a jail did not exist and there was no need for it."⁶⁸

17 November 1861 - Millville, Cache County, Utha:

Elvira Marietta Weaver was born to Franklin and Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver.

29 March 1862 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Samuel Henry Weaver is born to Franklin and Sarah Clark Weaver.⁶⁹

17 June 1862 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

George Gregory Weaver is born to Franklin and Rachel Weaver.⁷⁰

1861-1865 - Utah Territory:

With the outbreak of the Civil War in the United States, "Few Latter-day Saints left their isolated refuge in the Rocky Mountains to participate...but the dreadful battles caused them to remember Joseph Smith's 1832 prophecy on war..."⁷¹ Of more immediate concern were the Cache Valley settlers' relationships with their Indian neighbors.

June 1862 - Logan, Cache County, Utah:

"About a thousand Indians entered the valley, and camped on the Church Farm [the former Elkhorn Ranch]. The brethren were on guard day and night to protect our stock and ourselves. The Indians, finding that the people were ready for them, gave it up, stole some horses and went away..."⁷² The Indians also stole children. "It was in May, 1866 that Thurston's three-year-old child was stolen from their home near Wellsville... The Indians tried to steal other children, and nearly got away with one of Brother Curtis's little boys..."⁷³ "Joseph, the three-year-old son of Edwin M. Curtis was stolen by the Indians. Sister Susan Martineau, working in the

yard of her home heard a child crying, and look[ed] up just in time to see two squaws going into the willows carrying a sack between them. She decided the child was in that sack and ran..." for help.⁷⁴ Unlike the Thurston child whose parents mourned out their days grieving for their lost daughter, the Curtis child was rescued.

28 September 1862 - Logan, Cache County, Utah:

"On Sunday...while the people were in meeting, word came that the Indians had run off a band of horses. Meeting was dismissed and volunteers started after the horses. Charles [Maughan] being a Minute-man went with them."⁷⁵ It is likely that Franklin and the Millville Minute Men were also mobilized.

23 January 1863 - Logan, Cache County, Utah:

"Col. Connor, passed through Logan with a company of 450 soldiers from Camp Douglas, and on the 29th came upon and attacked the Indians in a ravine 12 miles north of Franklin [Idaho]. The Indians resisted the soldiers, and a battle was fought lasting four hours... this broke the power of the Indians."⁷⁶

Franklin Weaver, however, was a friend to the Indians. And they proved their friendship to him as well, although that story will come later.

Summer 1863 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Tecumsey Weaver, Franklin's adopted Indian son, died.⁷⁷ "Not very long after the establishment of Millville, it became necessary to establish a cemetery... It is said that Tecumsah [Tecumsey], the adopted Indian son and faithful friend of Miles Weaver, was the first death in the community. No official record of his death exists."⁷⁸ All the details relating to a death and burial were taken care of by members of the community. After a death, the body would be washed and dressed. Cloths dipped in ice water to which saltpetre had been added were placed on the face to prevent wrinkling. It was the custom at that time that the body not be left alone between death and burial, so neighbors would "sit up with the dead. Men would stay with bodies of deceased men, and women with the women."⁷⁹ "The exception to this practice was when a person had died of a contagious disease. They were then buried as soon as possible after death, even if it occurred at night."⁸⁰

1863 - Millville to Bear Lake:

Once again Franklin Weaver was to become a pioneer trail blazer. "Franklin and Rachel were called by Pres. Brigham Young to help settle...the Bear Lake country, and moved to Bennington, Idaho."⁸¹ The Weavers (Franklin, Gilbert and their families) were called by Brigham Young to go with Charles C. Rich and others to settle the area Bear Lake, now in Idaho. "Gilbert and Sarah [and three children]... blazed their way through the beautiful Logan Canyon, building the road as they went. They pitched their tents where Paris, Idaho is now located. The

winter of '63 was a severe one. They suffered with cold and hunger." ⁸² They were also ready to return to Cache Valley as soon as their "missions" were completed.

1863-4 - Bear Lake Valley:

"The wolves would often attack the foraging cattle, cutting their hamstrings at the heel, making them helpless and then devouring them alive. As soon as an animal was helpless, wolves would appear from everywhere."⁸³

1 March 1864 - Bear Lake Valley:

*Two men came over the mountains on snowshoes and brought the settlers news of the outside world. [They] had heard practically nothing whatever all winter concerning the terrible struggle between the north and south which was at its peak, so all were glad to see these welcome messengers. As spring came, men began to explore the valley, seeking out the best locations to make permanent homes. Eventually about two-thirds of the Paris colony broke up and chose sites for permanent homes elsewhere in the valley.*⁸⁴

Franklin chose a site at what would be known as Bennington. Later the center of the townsite would be shifted so that the main street of the town would be a segment of the historic byway, the Oregon Trail.

May 1864:

When Brigham Young and company arrived in Cache Valley, their intention was to go on to the Bear Lake Valley of Idaho to select townsites. Brigham Young "suggested the name of Bennington for a city of the same name in his home state of Vermont."⁸⁵ An interesting account of this trip was written by Solomon F. Kimball, a lad of seventeen at the time, who gave quite a colorful picture of an arduous endeavor, shedding light on the rigors and hardships of pioneer life. The story of the Church leaders' trip to Bear Lake Valley is colorfully and charmingly described by a member of their party.⁸⁶ Settlements were founded in Ovid, Liberty, Montpelier, Bloomington, St.Charles, Fish Haven, and Bennington in 1864. Paris, Idaho, had already been founded in 1863.

The harsh winter was difficult for the settlers. One settler, "Franklin W. Young, had gone to Logan to mill and could hardly get back with a twenty-bushel grist... the only communicating between settlements was done by men on showshoes."⁸⁷ One early pioneer, Charles C. Rich, made a total of thirteen trips over the mountains on snowshoes.⁸⁸

22 May 1864 - Bear Lake Valley:

On the Church leaders' visit to the Bear Lake settlements, Brigham Young and Heber C. Kimball stayed in the home of Gilbert Weaver and his expectant wife.⁸⁹

*Brigham Young and Heber C. Kimball had arrived the day before to see how the Saints were getting along. They ate supper with father and mother and during the night the baby was born. The next day President Young and Heber C. Kimball christened and blessed the baby, Sarah Janette [Weaver].*⁹⁰

May 1864:

Soon after this President Young released the Weaver families from their missions and they returned to Millville. "While there in Bear Lake, President Young and Heber C. Kimball released my father [Gilbert Weaver] from this mission. So they returned to their home, a one-room log cabin and lean-to in... Millville."⁹¹ Though it may seem rather primitive, life was far more civilized in Millville than it was in the rough country at Bear Lake, Idaho.

Undated:

*When Franklin Weaver was operating the church farm [Elkhorn Ranch], Brigham Young visited with the family many times. The children became very excited when President Young came. He rode in a shiny black coach pulled by two black horses. The coachman was colored and rode on a high seat in the front while Brigham sat behind. The coachman would stop and the children would ride to the house with President Young. He always had a bag of candy for them. Sarah had known him for a long time. He always stayed for dinner and complimented Sarah on her good food. Brigham was well acquainted with Sarah because she had attended his private school with his children.*⁹²

For Franklin, life in Millville took on a familiar character. The families were reunited and took an active part in community life.

31 July 1864 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Marinda Vilate Weaver was born to Franklin and Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver.

1864 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

"The Calico Troupe," a dramatics company was organized in Millville, consisting of eleven members, including Rachel Weaver.⁹³

*Eliza Ann Humphreys Jessop, wife of Thomas, had been educated in an exclusive girls' school in South Africa and had brought with her many beautiful dresses, unsuitable for wear in pioneer Millville. This wardrobe she donated to the company for much needed costumes. The group developed into exceptionally good thespians, performing for years in surrounding communities.*⁹⁴

And among the notable singers in those years were Rachel, Martha and Elmina Weaver. There were also other signs of progress in the northern Utah valley.

1 March 1865 - Cache Valley, Utah:

"Work was started on the proposed Logan and Richmond canal. It was completed as far as Hyde Park by June first."⁹⁵

1866 - Salt Lake City, Utah:

Church leader, Elder Wilford Woodruff, wrote: "We are in constant communication by electric telegraph through all the settlements in Cache Valley, and shall be in a few days with Bear Lake and St. George."⁹⁶

14 December 1865 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

James Dart Weaver was born to Franklin and Rachel Weaver.

21 September 1867 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Johnathan Holmes Weaver was born to Franklin and Sarah Elizabeth Holmes.

25 May 1868 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

The Millville Female Relief Society was organized during the time that George O. Pitkin served as ward Bishop.⁹⁷ Sarah Ann Pitkin was sustained as President with Jane Cummings and Rachel Weaver as counselors, Eliza King, secretary, and Esther Wood, treasurer. It was also during this year that the "last call came for teamsters to go east to help the emigrants; and Millville responded liberally, as usual."⁹⁸

2 August 1868 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

James Dart Weaver, twenty-month old child of Franklin and Rachel died. The Millville Ward record states that the cause of death was drowning.⁹⁹ This tragic accident happened at the "old mill race at Millville."¹⁰⁰ Three weeks later the greiving gave way to joy with the birth of another child. Life and death were common realities for the pioneers.

28 August 1868 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Horace Weaver was born to Franklin and Rachel Weaver.

4 November 1868 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Riley Weaver was born to Franklin and Sarah Clark Weaver.¹⁰¹

10 May 1869 - Promontory Summit, Utah:

Completion of the transcontinental railroad...changed economic patterns and institutions in the nation and among the Saints....It meant an end to their unrealized goal of economic self-sufficiency and fostered instead a strengthening of ties with the national economy. The [Mormons] participated directly in constructing the railroad and profited through investments in related enterprises. The arrival of the iron horse also hastened immigration, an important element in their continuing efforts to build Zion in the tops of the mountains.¹⁰²

Church leaders also initiated construction of a connecting network of railroads within Utah. The Utah Central, Utah Southern, and Utah Northern were all completed in the early 1870s.¹⁰³

14 July 1870 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

The United States federal census enumerated in household number 11, Franklin Weaver, age 42, Sarah [Clark], age 39, Miles J. age 20, Rebecca 15, Josephine 13, Helen, 10, Henry 8, and Riley 1. Samuel Clark and Rebecca Clark, Sarah's parents, are listed in the adjoining dwelling. Enumerated in the same household with Franklin and Sarah are Edward Weaver and Christiana, ages 21 and 20 respectively. (Franklin Edward Weaver, son of Franklin and Rachel Weaver, married Christiana Graham in 1868.)

Franklin's other two wives are enumerated in separate households, number 41 and 42 respectively. With Christiana, age 34 (born Pennsylvania), are Christiana age 20, Elmyrna A. 18, Mary J. 15, Frances 12, George 8, Horace 1, all born in Utah, and finally Christina Graham age 75, born in Pennsylvania (presumably Christiana Rachel's mother). Next door live Sarah [Holmes] Weaver age 36 (born Illinois), Miles 15, Maryetta 8, Vilate 6, and Jonathan 2, all born in Utah.

1856 - 1880:

A glimpse into the family relationships among the wives and children of Franklin are recorded by a granddaughter. She said that Franklin

was a man who wanted love and unity in his families. He never allowed his children to use the term 'my half brother or sister.' The twenty-one of them were all brothers and sisters and had a love that was mutual. Each family had their own dwelling place, but all worked together. When men's clothing was needed, Rachel made them for anyone who needed them. Sarah Clark, a beautiful seamstress, made the women's clothing. She also made buckskin gloves from the skins they obtained from the Indians. Sarah Holmes knit all the stockings and mittens for the family. No wonder there was no time for gossip!¹⁰⁴

For another glimpse into the lifestyle of these frontier settlers a granddaughter's recollections provide a window through which we can observe:

The range was free and there was not much to spend our money for, as there was not stores nearer than Soda Springs. Then we could only buy yardage goods, and foods which consisted of dried fruit, rice, dried beans and such. We always sent two cows to Kunz dairy in the spring and Kunz returned them in the fall with a quantity of cheese. The wheat was hauled to a grist mill and ground into flour, graham flour, cracked wheat for cereal and bran for the chickens and pigs. We stored our vegetables and potatoes in a pit or a root cellar. We had our own meat, pork and lard. We smoked our own hams and bacon and buried them in the wheat bins in [order] to keep them. We had plenty of baby beef and from the fat Mother [Josephine] made soap and candles. We each had a tin candle holder to carry upstairs as it was too dangerous for children to carry a kerosene lamp. It was a daily job to clean the glass lamp chimneys and fill the lamps with coal oil or kerosene and trim the lamp wicks... We had our beds made from straw... The straw was renewed twice or three times a year, discarding the old straw, washing the ticks...Another tick was made and filled with cat tails, a reed-like plant, for winter, which was as warm as [a] feather bed.¹⁰⁵

24 July 1870 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Pioneer Days celebration. At daybreak a cannon blast announced the holiday. The "cannon" consisted of two heavy anvils, one dropped atop the other, with plenty of black powder placed between. Early parades featured real Indians, lots of horses and covered wagons pulled by oxen. After the parade came the meeting, consisting of a patriotic speech, musical numbers and sometimes a flag drill. It was noted in The Logan Journal of July 26, 1870, that "at the Millville celebration, Thomas Jessop was orator of the day, Captain Franklin Weaver, Marshall, and George O. Pitkin, Thomas Jessop and Joseph Humphreys, committee of arrangements."

1860 -1880 - Cache Valley & Bear Lake Valley:

Dancing was very much a part of pioneer social life. From the beginning the Church had never looked upon dancing, when done in the proper spirit, as being sinful. Even on the pioneer trail across the plains, fiddlers and dancers would enjoy a little diversion around the evening campfires. In Cache Valley and in Bear Lake Valley, however, dances were hardly ever held during the summer, because everyone was working long and hard. Winter was the dancing season. As the settlers were fairly well snowed in from the outside world, they held dances quite frequently. Entertainment was scarce, and all of it was homemade.

In 1870 Solomon F. Kimball and seven other young men were sent as missionary-settlers to settle Round Valley at the south end of Bear Lake Valley. Kimball has left a good description of the early dances and their place in the settlements:

On the 10th of December the boys received invitations to attend a grand ball to be given at the ranch of James Charles, three miles away. Though the snow was deep and the thermometer registering some fifteen degrees below zero, the boys were there on time. In less than an hour both fiddles were tuned, and the dance went on, though the floor was rough. The thermometer continued to go down, but the dance kept up. When morning came, it was too cold to stop dancing, so they danced all day. When night came again, it was about forty degrees below zero. There was a large fireplace in one end of the ballroom, and the men took turns chopping wood to keep the fire burning. All bedding was used to keep the fiddlers and children warm; the rest had to dance or freeze.

While one fiddler was playing the other was warming his fingers; and the colder the weather, the harder the crowd danced. By this time the floor was smooth, but everybody's shoes were about worn out, and even the buttons began to loosen from their clothing. The Highland Flings and Pigeon Wings and other fancy steps taken would have made a French dancing master green with envy. The caller, whose voice was like a fog-horn when he began to call, had by this time dwindled to a hoarse squeak; and toward the second morning the dance simmered down to a grand right and left, all around the room. Finally their prayers were heard: the south wind came, the weather moderated and the dance ended... [They] returned home...then went to bed, where they remained two days and nights. Before they had fairly recovered from their last entertainment a stranger on snowshoes brought invitations for them to attend another grand ball... The surprise almost took their breath. They had a week to get ready, so decided to go... About 1875 the Church was exerting pressure to eliminate round dancing (waltzes, etc.)... Finally a set of rules for governing dancing was drawn up.¹⁰⁶

Once the bishop took [Gilbert Weaver] to task for allowing his children to dance the waltz and other round dances, but he said, "As long as my children are under my own roof I think they are safe."¹⁰⁷

11 October 1870 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Gilbert Oscar Weaver was born to Franklin and Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver. When Oscar was a baby Sarah Elizabeth

took seriously ill with lock-jaw. Franklin was away at the time so friends came in to care for her. She steadily grew worse and finally believing her dead, they began to prepare her for burial. She could hear everything they said and did, but she could in no way show them she was alive. [When] an Indian came to see Franklin...he inquired why Franklin was not home with his sick `squaw.' The friends told him Franklin did not know about her so they directed him to where Franklin was working. The Indian rode so fast and steadily that his horse dropped dead as he reached his destination. Franklin immediately secured two horses and he and the Indian rode back as quickly as possible. On arrival Franklin instructed the friends to remove the cold packs and administer warmth. He opened his shirt and held her tightly against his perspiring chest. He held her this way until the women could get hot blankets to wrap her in. Feeling within

*himself that her time had not come, he administered to her and promised her that through her faith she would be restored to health. After this serious illness she bore three more children.*¹⁰⁸

1871 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Rachel Weaver was active in the women's auxilliary of the Church. In 1871 the Millville Ward Relief Society was headed by Sarah Ann Pitkin, President, Jane Cummings, 1st Vice President, Christiana Rachel Weaver, 2nd Vice President and Martha King Waylette, Secretary.¹⁰⁹ Rachel, "In addition to her many duties as mother and church worker, ... always saw to it that her children's spiritual guidance received her whole-hearted attention."¹¹⁰

19 September 1872 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Hannah Maud Weaver was born, the youngest child of Franklin and Rachel Weaver.¹¹¹

1873 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

The Millville Ward Relief Society had a change in officers: Sarah Ann Pitkin, President, Christiana Rachel Weaver, 1st Vice President, Sarah Holmes Weaver, 2nd Vice President and Martha King Waylette, Secretary.¹¹²

1874 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

The Millville Ward Relief Society had another change in officers: Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver, President, Maria Wood Pitkin, Vice President, Matilda Henrie, Secretary and Esther Wood, Treasurer.¹¹³ Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver

*was a practical nurse and an eye doctor. Many men had come from the fields and surrounding communities almost blind, and Sarah would soon have them relieved. Sometimes the men would be so blind they would have to be led into the house, but always Sarah was able to help them. Never once in her life did she charge a penny for her services.*¹¹⁴

It has also been noted by her descendants that Sarah Elizabeth, "According to the Prophet Joseph Smith's blessing, never failed to explain the Gospel to whomever she could and she received letters from many missionaries whom she had never seen, asking for her testimony of the Prophet Joseph Smith."¹¹⁵

31 January 1873 - Logan, Cache County, Utah:

The Utah and Northern narrow gauge railroad which was started at Brigham City, August 26 was completed as far as Logan.¹¹⁶

Between 1870 and 1880 (approximated) - Cache Valley, Utah:

Though Franklin engaged in farming, shoemaking, and the many and varied tasks required as a frontier settler, he still engaged in his primary vocation as a herder and cowboy. Franklin "spent four summers in Blacksmith's Fork Canyon caring for the Church cattle."¹¹⁷ A number of Millville residents owned property in Blacksmith Fork Canyon. Franklin Weaver was one of the first and it was while he and his wife Sarah Holmes were living there that a band of unfriendly Indians came to their home and demanded food. Some of the Indians were in warpaint.¹¹⁸ Though Franklin was an efficient Indian language interpreter,¹¹⁹ he felt he must comply with their demands.

*Franklin was forced to leave his wife and children at the mercy of the Indians while he butchered a beef for them. The Indians then demanded biscuits; and Sarah, knowing that she only had flour enough for one batch, took all of it and made biscuits. Twice more the Indians demanded biscuits, and each time there was enough flour for one batch. Sarah sent her little boy [possibly Jonathan or Gilbert] for wood, and on his way back to the house one of the Indians tripped him and he cut his lip. She told the Indian chief there would be no biscuits until he promised that his people would not molest her children and that the Indians could carry in the wood themselves. Franklin returned at dusk with the best beef he could find. This satisfied the Indians and they took the meat and left in peace. With thanksgiving and gratitude the family fell to their knees and thanked God for His protecting care.*¹²⁰

1 August 1875 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

According to the records of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Franklin Weaver was re-baptized by Geo. O. Pitkin, re-confirmed by R. Jessop. On this same date Christiana Rachel Weaver was re-baptized by her husband, Franklin, and re-confirmed by R. Jessop. In the ward records it is noted that Franklin is a High Priest, a designation of priesthood authority and responsibility, but it does not list the date of his ordination to that office or who performed it.¹²¹ It was not uncommon for re-baptisms to take place in those days. Many pioneers were re-baptized when they came into the valleys of Utah. The practice has since been abandoned.

3 November 1875 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Sarah Lucina Weaver was born to Franklin and Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver.

1876-1877-1878 - Bear Lake County, Idaho:

The assessment roll of property owners lists Miles J. Weaver of Liberty Twp., Miles Weaver, Bennington, and F.E. Weaver of Bennington.¹²² This suggests that these sons of Franklin moved earlier than other sources indicate, or at least had secured land there. See April, 1882 in Chapter 5.

18 May 1877 - Logan, Cache County, Utah:

"Ground for the Logan Temple was broken. The dedicatory prayer was offered by Apostle Orson Pratt. Appropriate remarks were made by President Brigham Young and Apostle John Taylor."¹²³ This meant that the settlers could worship in a temple and participate in temple ordinances without having to make the trip to Salt Lake City.

29 August 1877 - Salt Lake City, Utah:

President Brigham Young died at his home after a short illness.¹²⁴

*It is interesting to note here that...the press comment throughout the United States was to the effect that Mormonism would doubtless survive notwithstanding the demise of the late Brigham Young. The press had profited by the blunder of the press of a previous generation, which predicted the failure of Mormonism with the death of its founder—under God—always be it remembered—Joseph Smith.*¹²⁵

8 May 1878 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

David Weaver was born to Franklin and Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver.

1880 - Utah and Idaho territories:

Political strife about polygamy resulted in increased pressure to split families. The first anti-polygamy legislation in the nation passed in 1862 and resulted in a test case heard by the U.S. Supreme Court. Polygamy or plural marriage was found to be constitutional in 1879. Then in 1882 the Edmunds Act was passed, defining polygamy as a crime. And finally in 1887 the Edmunds-Tucker Act confiscated Church property and disinherited polygamous children, and contained other drastic measures. The Edmunds-Tucker Act was repealed in 1890 after the Church issued a statement declaring the abandonment of plural marriage known as the Manifesto. "When the government decided to put an end to polygamy, the marshals and lawmen were sent out to search the homes of known polygamists. They were to find the husbands and put them in prison."¹²⁶

According to biographer Arlen Clement, "It just made Franklin sick to split up his families."¹²⁷ "These were the years when `the Feds' were hounding polygamists unmercifully. No peace could be found by any polygamist. Franklin loved his families--all of them, and yet if he were caught living with them he would be imprisoned. This probably was a factor in his decision to `go railroading.'

The railroad built a roundhouse in Montpelier, Idaho, as well as a machine shop that provided income for many people.¹²⁸ Franklin was gone a lot and most of the time he was "out of reach of the long arm of the law."¹²⁹

That at least one of Franklin's three families lived in another household in another town by 1880 can be documented in the Federal Census of that year.

1880 - Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho:

"Because of the persecution against plural marriage, Sarah Clark Weaver settled in Gentile Valley, Idaho." ¹³⁰ Gentile Valley was the area south and west of Soda Springs, but was never a town or city.

By the time of the 1880 census Sarah Clark Weaver and her children were living in Bennington, Idaho. The United States federal census enumerated Sarah [Clark] Weaver age 40, with Miles J. 29, Samuel H. 18, and Riley age 11. ¹³¹ Sarah also lived at Liberty, Idaho. "Sarah Clark moved to Liberty, Bear Lake, Idaho with her sons Miles, Henry and Riley, and her daughters, Josephine and Helen." ¹³² Sarah Clark Weaver was the first Relief Society President in Liberty, Bear Lake County, Idaho. ¹³³ Liberty is a small community west of Montpelier, Idaho.

1880 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Two of the families were still together in Millville, however. The United States federal census enumerated the family of Franklin Weaver, age 52. In the household at that time are Rachel 49, Horace 10, Anne M. 6, Sarah E. 42, Miranda V. 16, Johnathan H. 12, Gilbert O. 9, Sarah L. 4, David 2. ¹³⁴

After Franklin and Rachel moved to Bennington, Sarah Holmes Weaver stayed at the old home in Millville with her children Miles Franklin, Marietta, Elvira, Lucinda, David and Phebe May. ¹³⁵

Even though Franklin's brother, Gilbert, was not a participant in any plural marriage, the brothers remained close. Gilbert named a child after his brother Franklin. ¹³⁶ About 1880 Franklin's oldest brother,

Horace Racio Weaver who never joined the church, finally emigrated with his family around 1880. One of his daughters, Mary Weaver Baker, became a member and settled at Marysville, Idaho, which was named in her honor, as she and her sons built the first house in that place. Horace went to the Boise country to live and is buried there. ¹³⁷

18 August 1880 - Farmington, Davis Co., Utah:

Franklin Weaver's father-in-law, Jonathan Harriman Holmes died at 74 years of age. Obituary appeared in the Deseret News Sept. 1, 1880. ¹³⁸

21 June 1881 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Phebe May Weaver is born to Franklin and Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver. She was the youngest of Franklin's twenty-three children. This number does not include the additional four children of his brother Miles that he helped to raise.

Thus we come to the end of the longest era of Franklin's life. He had lived in Cache Valley for more than twenty years. His contributions to Millville and to the Church were significant. His family had grown and prospered, and he had won for himself a cherished place in a growing community.

NOTES FOR CHAPTER 4:

1. Kate B. Carter, Heart Throbs of the West (Salt Lake City: Daughters of the Utah Pioneers), V. 6, p. 175.
2. Joel E. Ricks, ed. The History of a Valley (Logan, Utah: Cache Valley Centennial Commission), 1956, p. 30.
3. The Family History of Horace Weaver [no author available], MSS in possession of editor, p. 2: "The winter of 1855 and 56 was very hard and most of the church cattle perished. Franklin never recovered from the grief of this great loss to the church." Though it is certain that this great loss to the Church was felt keenly by the Weaver brothers, it was the second loss of cattle, almost thirty years later, that caused Franklin the grief that he "never recovered from ..."
4. A. J. Simmonds, "Blizzard decimated Elkhorn Ranch herds," The Herald Journal/Cache (Logan: Sunday, August 9, 1992).
5. Kate B. Carter, Heart Throbs of the West (Salt Lake City: Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, 1939-1951, 12 Vol.), Vol. 6, Vol. 11, p. 175: "*On October 9, 1899 the Church deeded the property of Brigham Young College, a Church school which had been founded in Logan, for its maintenance, and thereafter the Elk Horn Ranch became known as the Church Farm.*"
6. Joel E. Ricks, ed., The History of a Valley (Logan, Utah: Cache Valley Centennial Commission, 1956), p. 30.
7. Simmonds, p. 8.
8. Cache Valley Hist. Soc. & Utah State Hist. Soc., History of Cache Co., Utah (Logan, UT State Ag. College Lib., 1955) p. 20: The second child, Elizabeth Maughan, was born on Sept. 27, 1856, and the two families each claimed the honor until 1938 when a letter from the brother of the first named child cleared up the dispute.
9. Church of Jesus Chrsit of Latter-day Saints, Endowment House Sealings by Proxy, (Salt Lake City: Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1958), p. 24 [FHLC#0183389/2].
10. To distinguish between the two Sarah's they were sometimes called "White Sarah" and "Black Sarah," because of their hair coloring. Sarah Clark Weaver was blonde, while Sarah Holmes Weaver was brunette.
11. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Endowment House Sealings by Proxy, (Salt Lake City: Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 19??), p. 24. [FHLC#0183389;item 2]
12. Sarah Harris Mickelson, Life Sketch of Franklin Weaver, MSS in the possession of editor, p. 9.
13. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Library, Ethel Stevenson, Life Sketch of Miles Weaver, MSS, p. 5.
14. Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Museum, Logan, Utah, Scrapbooks, 1890-1948, [FHLC# 1421954], Newsclipping of obituary Feb. 23, 1938 gives her birth date as March 9, 1856. Susan Easton Black (see bibliography) also gives the birth date as 1856. If this date is correct, Josephine was the biological child of Miles

Weaver, and not Franklin, even though she was born after the death of Miles. All the family group records consulted, including the Ancestral File of FamilySearch include her among the children of Franklin and Sarah Clark Weaver. Her daughter, Sarah Harris Mickelson stated more than once that her birth date was 9 March 1857. This date is supported by the 1860 census of Millville, Cache County, Utah which took place in August of that year and lists Josephine as age three.

15. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, FamilySearch, Ancestral File, Salt Lake City: Version 4.15, 1995.
16. Ibid.
17. James B. Allen, and Glen M. Leonard, The Story of the Latter-day Saints (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1976), p. 298.
18. Ibid., p. 301.
19. The Mormons believed the prophecy in Isaiah, Chapter 14, referred to them.
20. Allen & Leonard, p. 306.
21. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Library, Ida Rachel Weaver Haycock, History of Gilbert Weaver, Utah Pioneer of 1848, MSS, p. 3.
22. Allen & Leonard, p. 307.
23. Frank Esshom, Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah, (Salt Lake City: Utah Pioneers Book Publishing, 1913), p. 1234.
24. Allen & Leonard, p. 308.
25. Ibid., p. 309.
26. Mary D. Weaver & Barbara Weaver, Horace & Adelaide Wright Weaver, MSS in possession of editor, p. 4.
27. Arlen Clement, The Valiant Ones. (Orem, UT: s.n. 1990), p. 95.
28. Ancestral File.
29. Simmonds, p. 8.
30. Ibid.
31. Millville Historical Committee, Millville Memories (Logan, Utah: 1989), p. 388.
32. Weaver & Weaver, p. 4.
33. Sarah Harris Mickelson, History of Sarah Emeline Harris Mickelson, MSS in possession of compiler, p. 6.
34. Ibid. p. 7.
35. Millville Memories, p. 140 (quoting Mrs. Henry Hulse, a daughter of Franklin Weaver).
36. Ricks, p. 45.

37. Ricks, p. 44. Also see M. R. Hovey, ed., Biographical Sketch with Family Records of George Orrin Pitkin (Logan, Utah, 1934), p.10, [FHLC# 0485341], and manuscript of same [FHLC# 0485340]: "Gib Weaver [son of Gilbert Weaver and Sarah E. Conover] and his wife Mary Ann who were our pals had been married for a couple of years and had a baby boy. We chummed together. Gib and I did a lot of canyon work together as long as they lived in Millville. We were always very close friends."
38. Russell R. Rich, Land of Sky-Blue Water, (Provo: Brigham Young University Press, 1963), p. 72.
39. Simmonds, p. 8. This verifies that the Franklin Weaver family was also living at the Church Farm in April of 1860 as recounted by biographer, Sarah Hovey.
40. Ruth Robbins, of Salt Lake City, Utah, telephone conversation with editor July, 1995. She also said that "Brigham Young had given them a mission to settle Santa Clara and it seemed a real heresy not to follow it, so when James and Marinda Casteel went back to San Bernardino, they ended up joining the Reorganized Church. ("In 1860 a number of factions and splinter groups united under the leadership of young Joseph, a son of the martyred seer, to form what has become known as the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints." Bruce McConkie, Mormon Doctrine (Salt Lake City, Utah: Bookcraft, 1958), p. 565.) Ruth Robbins also stated that many of the Weaver-Casteel descendants are still in the San Bernardino area.
41. See the forthcoming book by Edward Leo Lyman, San Bernardino, the Rise and Fall of a California Community (Salt Lake City, Utah: Signature Books, 1996).
42. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Hyrum Stake Millville Ward Record of Members, Early-1909 (Salt Lake City: Historian's Office), [FHLC#0026139].
43. Ibid. John King baptized several of the children, including re-baptizing twenty-nine year old Franklin Edward Weaver.
44. Edward W. Tullidge, Tullidge's Histories, Northern Utah and Southern Idaho Vol. II (Salt Lake City: Juvenile Instructor, 1889), [FHLC#1000614/2], p. 423.
45. United States Federal Census, 1860, Cache County, Utah, [FHLC#0805314].
46. Millville Memories, p. 5.
47. United States Federal Census, 1860, [FHLC# 0805314]. Also, from Kate B. Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, V. 4, p. 440: "John Rufus Stoddard stayed in Calif. a year after he was released from service. He came to Utah then went to San Bernardino, CA where he resided three years after which time he and his family returned to Santa Clara, Washington Co., UT where they established a home. Mr. Stoddard passed away in Vernal, UT." Also see Arlen Clement, The Valiant Ones, p. 95-6, for history of Martha Elizabeth Weaver Stoddard.
48. Haycock, p. 4.
49. A. J. Simmonds, "Reorganized Militia Faced Shoshoni Threat," The Herald Journal/Cache, Sept. 6, 1987. (6th part in a series on the Nauvoo Legion in Cache Valley.)
50. Al. J. Curtis, Pioneer Edition of Events in the Early History of Logan and Cache Valley (Logan, Utah, 1946), p. 4.
51. Millville Memories, p. 146.
52. Ibid.

53. A. J. Simmonds, "Massive Reorganization Took Place in 1863," The Herald Journal/Cache, Sept. 13, 1987 (Seventh of a series on the Nauvoo Legion in Cache Valley). Also see Wellsville Historical Committee, Windows of Wellsville 1856-1984 (Providence, Utah: Keith W. Watkins, 1958), p. 227-229.
54. Ibid.
55. Millville Memories, p. 111.
56. Family History of Horace Weaver, MSS (no author given) in possession of editor, p. 3.
57. Millville Memories, p. 176.
58. Cache Valley Historical Society, Cache Valley Quorum of High Priests Minute Book, Nov. 1859 to Sept. 1883, (Logan, Utah: USAC Library, 1955), [FHLC#0237797].
59. Ibid.
60. Curtis, p. 4.
61. Minute Book, of same date.
62. Ibid, of same date.
63. Ibid.
64. Ibid.
65. E. C. Shaeffer, From Wagon Trails to Subway Rails (Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University, 1988), p. 6, and 7.
66. Minute Book, date of Jan. 26th, 1861.
67. Rich, p. 112.
68. Tullidge, p. 503.
69. Samuel Henry Weaver died just short of thirty years of age without ever having married.
70. Ancestral File.
71. Allen & Leonard, p. 291.
72. DUP Scrapbooks, [FHLC#1421953], of date.
73. Ibid. (Also see: Curtis, p. 7-8.)
74. Curtis, p. 7, 8.
75. Ibid., quoting Mary Ann Maughan's narrative.
76. Ibid.

77. As noted in the pocket diary that belonged to Franklin and Rachel, in possession of Melba Weaver Empey, Driggs, Idaho.
78. *Ibid.*, p. 133.
79. *Ibid.*
80. Christian Jeppesen, Jr., History of Lakeview Ward, 1885-1951 (Provo, UT: J. Grant Stevenson, 1969), p. 38.
81. Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Library, Pearl Batt Hulse, History of Christina Rachel Reed and Franklin Weaver, MSS. However, Brigham Young was not living at this time. She is probably referring to the earlier call to help settle Bear Lake County, which the Weavers did. They then returned to Millville.
82. Haycock, p. 4.
83. Rich, p. 32.
84. *Ibid.*
85. Christian, p. 68: "As a matter of fact, he also suggested the name for Montpelier. And if Brigham Young 'suggested' the names, then that's what the two towns would be called."
86. Rich, p. 32-34, 42: "Heber C. Kimball's son, Solomon F. Kimball, a lad of seventeen at the time of the trip, later wrote an accurate and rather interesting account of this trip which is well worth reading. The rising generation know but little of the hardships endured in early days by the leading men of this church, while they were helping the poor saints to establish themselves in these valleys. In order to make plain to them at least one phase of this subject it will be only necessary to give a brief account of President Young and Party's first visit to the Bear Lake Country.
- On Monday morning, May 16, 1864, at eight thirty o'clock, this little company drove out of Salt Lake City on its journey. It consisted of six light vehicles and a baggage wagon, occupied by the following persons: Brigham Young; Heber C. Kimball; John Taylor; George A. Smith; Wilford Woodruff; Joseph Young; Jesse W. Fox, Utah's surveyor; Professor Thomas Ellerbeck; George D. Watt, reporter, and seven teamsters. They reached Franklin, Idaho, on the afternoon of the third day, and by that time had increased their number to 153 men, eighty-six of whom were riding in vehicles, the balance being picked men, mounted on good horses for assisting the company on the way. There were no houses between Franklin and Paris, Idaho, consequently the program was to drive directly through to Paris in one day if possible.
- The fourth morning they got an early start, and drove almost to Mink Creek without accident. Here Brother George A. Smith's carriage broke down, but as good luck would have it, the brethren from Cache Valley had brought a light wagon along in case of such an emergency. The company were soon on the way again, as though nothing had happened.
- They reached the foot of the big mountain which divides Cache Valley from Bear Lake Valley, and here is where the tug of war began. The mountain was so steep that all were compelled to walk except Apostle Smith, who was so heavy that it would have been dangerous for him to undertake, as he weighed not less than 300 pounds. The mounted men soon had extra horses harnessed and hitched to single trees, and President Young and others, who were too heavy to help themselves, took hold of these single trees with both hands and were helped up the mountain in this way.
- Apostle Charles C. Rich and others, who had settled in the Bear Lake Valley the fall before, came to their assistance with all the ox teams that could be mustered. Several yokes were hitched to Brother George A. Smith's wagon, and he was hauled up the mountain, but before he reached the summit his wagon was so badly broken that he was compelled to abandon it. Everybody had a good laugh over the incident, it being the second vehicle broken down under his weight that day. With careful management under the supervision of President Young and council, the brethren managed to get him onto the largest saddle horse that could be found, and another start was made.
- The company descended the mountain on the Bear Lake side and soon reached the head of Pioneer Canyon, where they struck mud, mud, mud, and then some more mud. It had been raining all day and everybody

was wet through to the skin, except those who were riding in covered vehicles. Four horses were hitched to President Young's carriage, and several yoke of oxen to the baggage wagon. The majority of those who were riding in vehicles were compelled to walk on account of the trail being in such a fearful condition; and to see that presidential procession waddling through the deep mud was enough to make any living thing smile. It was the muddiest outfit ever seen in that part of the country.

Professor Ellerbeck undertook to cross the creek on a pole, and slipped off into the mud and water, and was a sad-looking sight after he had been pulled out. Many others passed through a similar experience that day. It was a case of every fellow for himself, some going one way and some another, the majority of them taking to the sidehills. Several times President Young's horses mired down to their sides, but with careful driving they got through all right.

President Kimball, who was handling his own team this afternoon, undertook to drive around one of these bad places, and had not gone far when his horses struck a soft spot and sank almost out of sight in the mud. Here it was where the mounted men were of service again. They soon had Brother Kimball's horses unhitched from the carriage, and long ropes fastened around their necks. Then about 30 men got hold of the ropes and pulled the horses out bodily, dragging them several rods before they could get them upon their feet. The carriage was then pulled out.

President Young, who was in the lead, made another start, and had not gone far when one of the horsemen brought word that Brother George A. Smith's horse had given out, and that they were obliged to build a scaffold in order to get him onto another one. This amusing story caused the authorities to have another laughing spell at Brother Smith's expense.

This canyon is about four miles long, and it was a mud hold from the beginning to end. The party reached the mouth of it at nine o'clock at night, and remained there long enough to rest and feed their animals. It was a cold night and the men made bonfires to keep themselves warm and dry their clothing.

About ten o'clock the company continued their journey. They drove down in the valley until they came to a small stream called Canal Creek. It was so narrow and deep that they had to jump their horses across it, and then get their vehicles over the best way they could. They reached the city of Paris at three o'clock the next morning, but were unable to see it until they had reached the top of a small hill in the center of town. It consisted of thirty-four log huts with dirt roofs, but they looked good just the same.

The Bear Lakers had caught a wagon load of beautiful trout in honor of the occasion, and had plenty of good fresh butter to fry them in; and what a feast the brethren did have after living on hope and mud for twenty-four hours! Sister Stocks and daughter did the cooking for the authorities, and it kept them busy as long as the party remained there.

The next twenty-four hours were spent in resting, as everybody was worn out; although Professor Ellerbeck took some scientific observations that day, probably the first that had ever been taken in that valley. The next day the company drove over to the lake, and spent several hours at a point where Fish Haven is now located. They returned to Paris that evening. The next day, being Sunday, they held an outdoor meeting in the forenoon. The speakers were President Young, who delivered the accompanying remarks, and Elders Kimball, John Taylor, and George A. Smith.

A considerable merriment [sic] was afterwards had over the question of whether Brother Smith should return home with the company or remain at Paris until the mud had dried up. However, the decision was that he returned home with the company on condition at Brother Rich furnish ox teams to haul him through the mud, and to the summit of the mountains. This Elder Rich, who was the pioneer of Bear Lake Valley, consented to do and at 3:00 PM the presidential party started for home. In the meantime, Canal Creek had been bridged over, and good time was made through the valley. They reached the mouth of Pioneer Canyon at dark, and camped for the night.

The next morning at 5:00 they continued their journey homeward. Brother Rich had more than kept his promise. He furnished two yoke of oxen for President Young's carriage, and four yoke for the baggage wagon, the latter being solely occupied by Brother George A. Smith, who had a smile on his countenance, that made all who beheld it feel good through and through. These were the only vehicles drawn by ox teams. They followed the road through the mud, while the lighter vehicles, drawn by horses, hugged the sidehills, which were so steep that the brethren had to lash poles to prevent the carriage from tipping over. This plan worked like a charm, and by nine o'clock the company had reached the summit of the mountain. Notwithstanding it rained hard all that day, the party reached Franklin about five o'clock that evening, and three days later they arrived home. They had been absent from home eleven days, and within that time had traveled 400 miles, besides holding meetings at all the principal settlements along the route, both going and coming; they also selected several town sites.'

"Settlements were founded in Ovid, Liberty, Montpelier, Bloomington, St. Charles, Fish Haven, and Bennington in 1864. Paris had been founded in 1863."

87. Ibid., p. 44.

88. Ibid., p. 45.

89. Haycock, p. 5.

90. Ibid.

91. Ibid.

82. Ruth Haycock Wynder, Memory Sketch of the Life of Gilbert Weaver, MSS, in possession of R. Wynder, Salt Lake City, UT.

93. Millville Memories, p. 161.

94. Ibid., p. 159.

95. Curtis, p. 7.

96. Rich, p. 84.

97. Millville Memories, p. 100.

98. Ibid., p. 49.

99. Millville Ward records.

100. Mickelson, Life Sketch of Franklin Weaver, p. 10.

101. It is to Riley's son, Henry Duncan Weaver, that this work is dedicated.

102. Allen & Leonard, p. 292.

103. Ibid., p. 329.

104. Mickelson, p. 7.

105. Sarah Harris Mickelson, History of Sarah Harris Mickelson, MSS in possession of editor, p. 2.

106. Rich, p.106-108. Evidently the rules were quite effective because when 20th Century Fox filmed a dance sequence for it's \$2,500,000 pioneer epic film "Brigham Young" in 1940, news about the waltz scene brought out the critics who pointed out that the waltz would not have been performed by the Mormon pioneers. Wanting no historical boners, the studio taught Tyrone Power, Linda Darnell and others the quadrille and reshot the dance scene. (Also see D.U.P. Scrapbooks, Cache Co. DUP Museum; FHLC#1421954.)

107. Haycock, p. 7.

108. Phebe May Weaver Smith, History of Sarah H. Weaver, MSS, (Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Library), p. 2.

109. Millville Memories, p. 107.
110. Family History of Horace Weaver, p. 3.
111. Ancestral File.
112. Millville Memories, p. 108.
113. Ibid.
114. Smith, p. 2.
115. Clement, p. 100.
116. Curtis, p. 9.
117. Millville Memories, p. 76. Also see Cache D.U.P. Museum scrapbooks: [FHLC#1421952], of date: 1936, Sept. 22 - Hyrum, Utah, "Blacksmith Fork Canyon park is dedicated and presented to the people of Hyrum and Cache County... An ampitheater, seating nearly 300 persons, swings and playground equipment for the children, camping facilities, ball park...make it one of the finest spots in the entire region."
118. Mickelson, S.E.H. Weaver, p. 12.
119. Family History of Horace Weaver, p. 2.
120. Millville Memories, p. 76.
121. Millville Ward Records.
122. Court Records of Idaho Territory, Bear Lake County, Assessment Roll of Property, [FHLC#14509689/9].
123. Curtis, p. 11.
124. Ibid. p. 12.
125. Roberts, V. 5., p. 523.
126. Millville Memories, p. 100.
127. Statement made in a phone conversation with the editor, 1994.
128. Haycock, p. 7.
129. Clement, p. 103.
130. Millville Memories, p. 387.
131. United States Federal Census of 1880, Bear Lake Co., Idaho.
132. Mickelson, Sarah Clark, p. 7.
133. Sarah Harris Mickelson, History of Samuel Clark, MSS in possession of editor, p. 3.

134. United States Federal Census of 1880, Cache Co., Millville precinct.
135. Mickelson, Franklin, p. 10.
136. Franklin's brother, Gilbert, age 45 in the 1880 federal census of Cache County, has an eight month old child named Franklin.
137. Anon., Weaver Family, MSS, in possession of Adelaide Cowles, Salt Lake City, Utah.
138. Obituary, Deseret News, Sept. 1, 1880, [FHLF#0026598].