

CHAPTER 5. THE LAST FRONTIER - 1883 TO 1910

1883 - Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho:

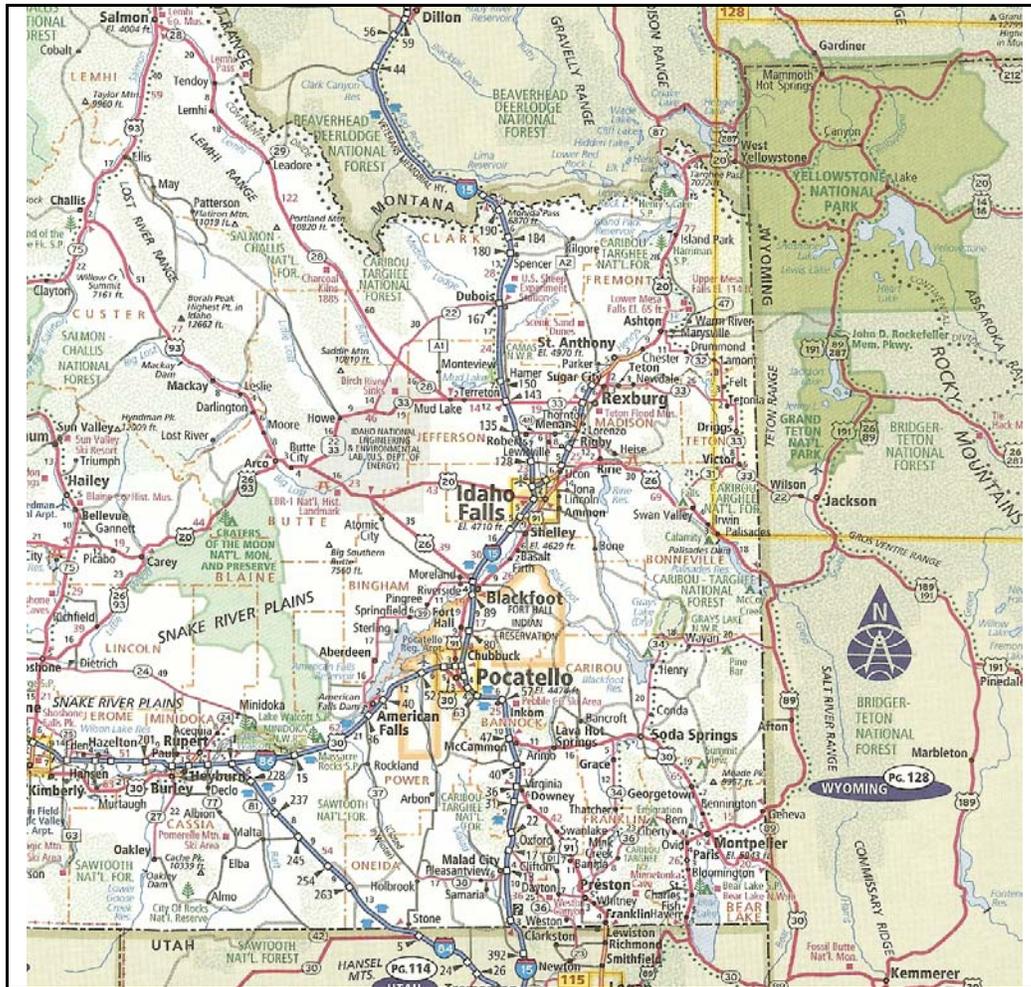
"When Franklin's health began to fail...he and his first wife, Rachel, moved to Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho.¹ Franklin's mission to settle Bear Lake Valley had been twenty years earlier, but he still carried a picture in his mind of its beautiful and rugged wilderness.

"Like Cache Valley, Bear Lake Valley's most valued industries were farming and dairying. It is a beautiful valley with the gorgeous Bear Lake lying to the extreme south. A natural warm springs on the east side of the lake lured many picnickers. Summer bathing, boating and fishing were enjoyed... Every fall [Gilbert Weaver] made several trips to Cache Valley for fruit and honey and peddled it to the Bear Lakers."²

In the year previous to Franklin's move to Bennington, two sons, Miles Franklin Weaver and George Gregory Weaver moved to Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho. Miles Franklin was twenty-four years of age and single. George was almost twenty and would marry in Bennington before the year was out (Miriam Amelia Davis, 9 Dec. 1882). Miles Franklin Weaver married two years later (26 Feb. 1884, Sarah Elizabeth Lindsay, in Bennington).

Not far from Bennington was the town of Paris, Idaho. Paris, as the county seat, was thriving by 1884. However, even in 1889 the population of Bennington was still only 300.³ "In 1884 a county court house was erected at Paris at a cost of \$10,000 and a Mormon tabernacle was commenced the same year which will cost when completed about \$75,000."⁴ A number of

tabernacles, larger than ordinary church meetinghouses, were built during the era of Mormon colonization. They were used primarily for area conferences of the Church and special community functions. The tabernacle at Paris was built utilizing the skill and craftsmanship of the pioneers, some of whom had been trained artisans in their native countries of Europe. The centennial celebration, held July 26-30, 1989 was the featured cover story of the Church News of August 5, 1989. "The tabernacle... stands as one of the best examples of Romanesque revival, patterned after cathedrals in southern France but with a sense of American vigor." ⁵ Franklin Weaver's name, along with other pioneer Saints, is engraved on a brass plaque that hangs in the foyer of the tabernacle.



1883 - 1884 - Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho:

Franklin had a moderate sized herd of cattle when he moved to Bennington. The winter was very cold [with] much snow. Feed was scarce and in the spring the stock were real thin. When they were turned out on the range in May, there came a

*heavy snow and they all died. With Franklin's health so poor, this disaster seemed too much for him. He was confined to his bed for several weeks.*⁶

12 June 1884 - Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho:

Franklin Weaver died. He was fifty-six years old. "Franklin was a loving father, a faithful and dependable worker. His word was as good as his bond. He was loved by all who knew him. He always befriended the Indians, and was well liked by them. He was slow to anger, but when his ire was aroused he never soon forgot it."⁷

Though the exact cause of death is unknown, it seems that Franklin's biographers of an earlier generation than ours, had a fairly clear idea of how the physical, mental and spiritual aspects of one's life are interwoven. Cancer was certainly a possibility. A rather large number of his descendants known to this writer have died of cancer. It would certainly be a worthy study to track the causes of death of the progeny of Franklin. Because of the excellent family records available, the Family History Library in Salt Lake City has been of great assistance to genetic researchers in the field of inherited diseases.

14 June 1884 - Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho:

Franklin Weaver was buried in the Bennington Cemetery.⁸ A medallion of The U.S. Mormon Battalion Inc. has placed been placed on the gravesite.⁹ The epitaph on his head stone reads:

*"DEAR FATHER, WITH A REVERENT HAND, THIS TO THY MEMORY GIVEN,
WHILE ONE BY ONE THY HOUSEHOLD BAND, GOD REUNITES IN HEAVEN."*¹⁰



Franklin's grave marker in the Bennington Cemetery, Bear Lake County, Idaho

In a loving tribute to Franklin, a granddaughter, Vilate Scott, wrote the following poem:

FRANKLIN

*He answered the call his whole life long.
He sought not riches nor busy throng.*

*But followed the paths and by his leader's stayed
And was loved by the youth in the early days.*

*To those who lived for the gospel's sake
Who gave their all and so little would take.*

*We know our father was one of the best
And his reward is sure in the land of the blest.¹¹*

12 July 1884, Logan, Cache County, Utah:

An obituary was carried by *The Utah Journal*, Saturday, July 12, 1884:

A correspondent writing from Montpelier, Idaho, July 5, furnishes us with an account of the death, at that place we presume, though the correspondent does not say where, of Franklin Weaver, an old settler of Cache Valley and for many years a resident of Millville:

He died on June 12th, surrounded by a large circle of relatives and friends who all stood ready to offer comfort and solace to the bereaved. He was a man full of faith and good works from his earliest connection with the church until his death. He suffered with the Saints in their persecutions and drivings. And when the call came to that little band of exiled Mormons for five hundred of their best men to take up arms in behalf of the government, he was one of the first to step forth and join the Mormon Battalion. With that brave company he traversed the dreary plains and the great desert of North America, and endured great hardships. At that time he had more power of endurance than most of his companions, hence he was chosen and sent out to search for water and scout for his company through all their weary marches; and many times carried back canteens of water to his flagging companions. He was widely known throughout the Church as a man of honor and integrity. The funeral services were held at Bennington, Idaho, June 13th, on which occasion President Wm. Budge delivered an excellent discourse. The family desires the Deseret News to publish an account of his death.¹²

The Idaho State Historical Society reported that neither the Bear Lake Democrat nor the Idaho Statesman newspapers carried an obituary of Franklin Weaver.¹³

26 June 1884 - Logan, Cache County, Utah:

Just two weeks after the death of Franklin, Rachel participated in the marriage sealing ordinance that sealed her to Franklin again. It may be surprising to Franklin's descendants that this religious ordinance was done again, since the couple had originally been sealed as husband and wife in a ceremony in 1851. Perhaps these ordinances were done again much the same way that Franklin and Rachel had been re-baptized. However, their original sealing took place after the birth of their son, Franklin Edward Weaver and their daughter, Christiana Martha Weaver. Since Christiana Martha had already passed away before 1884, it still remained that she and her brother, Franklin Edward, had not been sealed to their parents. We read: "Franklin Weaver and Christianna R. Weaver was cealed [sic] over the alter by David Canion June the 26, 1884, John J. D. McCalister Standing Proxy. Franklin E. Weaver Adopted to his Parents by D. Canion June the 16th 1884, John J. D. McCalister standing Proxy," from page 10 of the pocket diary of Franklin Weaver. At least part of the little book is in his own handwriting. After his death it was continued by another, probably Rachel.

Just two days prior to these proxy ordinances, Rachel performed proxy baptisms for several deceased aunts. Again from the pocket diary:

Christianna R. Weaver Baptized fore [sic] the Dead By William Smart June 24, 1884, Confirmed by Thomas Cordon. Aunts: Achsah R. Hutchins, Abigal R. Jones, Rachel Read, Margrett Crumley, Susanah Gregory, Mary Gregory. Cealed [sic] by E. Edliffson, William B. Graham and Christianna R. Weaver standing Proxy. Achsa and Samuel R. Hutchings cealed [sic] by David Canion June 25, Josiah and Abigal Jones, June 26, Rachel Read Wilson Endowed June 27.

22 July 1884 - Salt Lake City, Utah:

Over a month after his death the following obituary was published by the *Deseret Evening News*:

DEATH OF FRANKLIN WEAVER

Montpelier, Idaho, July 1, 1884; Editor Deseret News: Some time since I wrote to the Utah Journal, by the request of the relatives of Franklin Weaver, who died on the morning of the 12th of June, asking that paper to publish his death and a short sketch of his history. They (his relatives) desiring that paper to publish it as he was an old settler of Millville, in Cache Valley, and a permanent member of society in that Stake, being widely known throughout the Church for his many acts of charity for the advancement of the Gospel. The Journal did not, however, publish that communication. Brother Weaver was with the Saints in their early mobbings and persecutions, and his willingness to do what was required of him by the authorities of the Church caused him to join the Mormon Battalion and traverse with that brave band, the dreary plains of the great desert of North America, often feasting upon the flesh of worn-out mules. He, being more hardy than most of his comrades, was chosen as a scout to run ahead to search out camping places and water. And many times he carried back canteens of water for his flagging companions. He did his duties heroically and returned home soon to cross the

plains to help bring our people from Babylon. He was a Minute Man in the early times of Utah, ready at a moment's notice to mount his horse and defend his people, his stock and property from the ravages of the Indians. He was a long time in the service of the late President Young. His many exposures and continuous hard physical labor brought on a protracted illness, from which he suffered for a long time, and finally expired on the above mentioned date, surrounded by a large circle of relatives and friends, who stood ready to do all that was possible to do to make his last moments as comfortable as possible.

President Budge was present at the funeral and delivered a goodly address over the remains, and gave good words of cheer and consolation to the family of the deceased. He died in full faith and fellowship.

I should have said before that Brother Weaver, with his family moved here thinking that the climate of this valley might agree with his health.

Yours Respectfully, Hyrum Ricks.

22 September 1884 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

It was noted on the above date in the church records of the Millville Ward that Christianna Rachel Reed Weaver, widowed wife of Franklin moved from Millville, Cache, UT to Bennington, Bear Lake, ID.¹⁴ This is merely the notation date, not the date she moved. If the family record is correct, she moved with Franklin to Bennington in 1883, where she stayed until her death.

1 October 1885 - Whitney, Franklin County, Idaho:

Franklin Weaver's father-in-law, Samuel Clark, Sr. died "at the ripe old age of 87 years,"¹⁵ and was buried at Preston, Idaho.

31 December 1887 - Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho:

Life must go on, even without Franklin. A sweet recounting of the wedding of one of Franklin's sons illustrates the point: "At the home of Amos Wright, Horace Weaver married Adelaide Wright at midnight, the ceremony being completed January 1, 1888. Horace wore his best homespun pants, a white, pleated, starched shirt, a leather coat no doubt made by his mother [Rachel] and high-heeled boots."¹⁶

29 January 1887 - Washington, D. C.:

The Mexican War Pensions Act of this date provided the sum of \$8.00 per month to Christiana Rachel Weaver, widow. On the government form that she filled out she stated that she was disabled due to heart and kidney disease, and included a physicians affidavit in which Dr. C. A. Hoover of Montpelier, stated that "her general health is of such a condition as to incapacitate her from performing any manual labor such as would be expected of her."¹⁷ Another physician's affidavit, again made by Dr. Hoover, stated that "she has had frequent

attacks of inflammatory rheumatism which have left her with enlarged joints of the hand, also valvular disease of the heart."

The same Mexican War Pensions Act also provided for the widow of Miles Weaver, Sarah Clark Weaver.¹⁸

Approximately 1887 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Martha Elizabeth Weaver Stoddard came to visit her brother Gilbert. Ida Rachel Weaver Haycock remembered

a covered wagon stopping at our door asking if Gilbert Weaver lived there. Father was out in the field, and I ran to tell mom. It was his sister Martha and her husband. It had been forty years since they had seen each other. I remember them weeping like little children. They visited a week, and I don't think he ever saw her again.

September 1888 - Bear Lake Valley, Idaho:

Another reunion took place when Franklin's oldest brother, Horace Racio Weaver, and his family arrived in Bear Lake, emigrating from Hubbell, Nebraska. One wonders if the urge to connect with the family that so many feel in mid-to-later life prompted this move. Without being tied to property²⁰ perhaps he felt more free to keep on "pioneering." The next spring Horace and his wife Carolyn with two sons and their families moved to the Boise valley.²¹

16 March 1891:

Samuel Henry Weaver died, son of Franklin and Sarah Clark Weaver. His death was just a few days prior to his thirtieth birthday. Henry never married.

THE WIDOWS:

Approximately 1891:

Sarah Clark Weaver went to live with her daughter "Josie" (Josephine Octavia Ann Weaver Harris). She was welcomed into the home with much love and devotion. Here she lived for eighteen years. She was a great comfort to the family. She had just buried her son, Henry, before coming... which left Sarah and Riley alone. Riley [age 22] was seven years younger than Henry and since Sarah's health was poor²² she went to live with her daughter Josie, and Riley went to live with his sister, Helen Weaver Shaffer. Later (about 1901) Riley and Helen, along with their respective spouses and children would immigrate to Alberta, Canada.²³

21 January 1893 - Cache County, Utah:

Sarah Clark Weaver applied for a widow's pension provided by an act of the United States congress of Jan. 19, 1887 for veterans of the Mexican War.²⁴ The pension file is noteworthy by reason of the affidavits that failed to acknowledge Sarah's remarriage to Franklin. The manifesto which ended plural marriage had been approved by the members of the Church at the October conference of 1890. United States president, Grover Cleveland, issued a general amnesty to all Saints who had been in compliance with the law since 1890.²⁵ The file does not indicate that she ever actually received a pension.

October 1894 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

*When Sarah [Holmes] Weaver was a widow with four children at home, an epidemic of typhoid fever struck the community. Oscar and Louie were stricken. Oscar recovered, but Louie [Sarah Lusina Weaver] died. She was engaged to be married and her [wedding] dress was folded away in a chest that had been given to Sarah by Elvira Cowles. The chest had belonged to Joseph Smith. Louie was buried in her wedding dress. Her fiance later married a woman who consented to having Louie sealed to him as his first wife.*²⁶

24 December 1894 - Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho:

Christianna Rachel Reed Weaver died. She was sixty-three years old. She had been a widow for just over ten years. Five of her children had preceded her in death. Her tombstone in the Bennington Cemetery (lot 264, sec. 3) epitaph reads:

"DEAR MOTHER, IN EARTH'S THORNY PATHS, HOW LONG THY FEET HAVE TROD, TO FIND AT LAST THIS PEACEFUL REST, SAFE IN THE ARMS OF GOD."

21 July 1896 - Boise, Ada County, Idaho:

Horace Racio Weaver, eldest brother of Franklin, died, aged 73, in Boise, Idaho. Both he and his wife, Carolyn are buried there.

24 July 1897 - Salt Lake City, Utah:

Pioneer Day, a half century after the first Saints arrived in the Salt Lake Valley:

On the 50th anniversary of the pioneers' entrance into Utah, a huge celebration was held...Sarah [Elizabeth Holmes Weaver] attended and marched [in the parade, by arrangement of Wilford Woodruff] with the colored "mammy" who had been the cook in the Prophet's home. The "mammy" said to her, "So this is the little Sarah that used to swipe my cookies!"²⁷

28 May 1900 - Bear Lake County, Idaho:

A United States land patent was recorded in the name of Christianna R.[Rachel] Weaver.²⁸ Numerous other land transactions involving the Weaver family can be found in the Bear Lake County land and property records. In 1908 Weaver, et.al., granted a deed to the Bennington Ward.²⁹

For the settlers of Bear Lake there were two distinct disadvantages in acquiring titles to the land. Although the Homestead Act of 1862 made it possible to gain title to a quarter section of land, there was no government survey until 1871-2. This was about nine years after the first colonizers arrived...[making] it impossible to tell just which quarter section was where and what its boundaries were. The second disadvantage was that the "Mormon" system of colonizing called for people to live in towns on small acreages and do their farming by commuting. Such a system did not fit into the homestead laws.³⁰

Likewise, fencing and irrigation water were both problems in those early years. Some of the land and farming problems inherited from this era would still be troublesome two generations later.

12 December 1900 - Cache County, Utah:

Franklin Weaver's probate is filed at the courthouse. David Weaver, Franklin's youngest son, was appointed administrator of the estate. Among the various papers filed pertaining to the estate of Franklin Weaver, the Decree of Final Distribution is possibly the one of some interest to his descendants:

In the District Court of the First Judicial District of the State of Utah in and for the County of Cache, In the Matter of the estate of Franklin Weaver, Deceased, Decree of Final Distribution.

The petition of David Weaver, the duly appointed, qualified and acting administrator of the estate of Franklin Weaver, deceased, praying for the final distribution of the estate of the said deceased, came on regularly to be heard this day, and due proof was made to the satisfaction of the court that the clerk of this court had given due and legal notice of the hearing of the said petition as required by law and manner and for the time directed by this court and from the evidence introduced the court finds:

1. That the final account of the said David Weaver has been this day allowed and settled by this court, and that all the expenses of administration of said estate thus far incurred, and all taxes that have attached to or accrued against the said estate, have been paid and discharged; that the debts of the said deceased and of the estate of the said deceased have all been paid and that said estate is in condition to be closed. That in the decree allowing and settling the said final account and estimate was made of the expense of closing the said estate having no money to be disposed of by this decree.

2. That said decedent died intestate [without a will], on or about the twelfth day of June A. D. 1884, at Bennington in Bear Lake County, Idaho, and that said deceased at the time of his death was a resident of the County of Bear Lake in the Territory of Idaho. That said deceased left estate consisting of real property in the County of Cache and State of Utah. That said deceased left him surviving the following named sons of said deceased: Franklin E. Weaver, now aged about fifty-four years and residing at Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho, George G. Weaver, now aged about forty years and residing at Thayne, Uinta County, Wyoming; Horace Weaver, now aged about thirty-four years and residing at Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho; Riley Weaver, now aged about thirty-four years and residing at Magrath, Alberta Canada; Miles F. Weaver, now aged about forty-five years and residing at Bennington, Bear Lake County, Idaho; Jonathan H. Weaver, now aged about thirty-five years and residing at Iona, Bingham County, Idaho; Gilbert Oscar Weaver, now aged about thirty-two years and residing at Idaho Fall, Bingham County, Idaho; David Weaver, now aged about twenty-four years and residing at Millville in Cache County, Utah and the following named, all daughters of the said deceased: Elmira A. Birch, now aged about forty years and residing at St. Anthony, Fremont County, Idaho; Mary J. Hulse, now aged about forty-eight years and residing at Rudy, Fremont County, Idaho; Frances C. Cummings, now aged about forty-four years and residing at Millville in Cache County, Utah; Hannah M. Davis, now aged about twenty-nine years and residing at Lovel, Big Horn County, Wyoming; Josephine O. Harris, now aged about forty-six years and residing at Cove, Gentile Valley, Idaho; Helen Shaffer, now aged about forty-four years and residing at Magrath, Alberta, Canada; Marietta E. Hargraves, now aged about forty-one years and residing at Pocatello, Bannock County, Idaho; Marinda V. Scott, now aged about thirty-eight years and residing at Millville, Cache County, Utah; and Phebe M. Smith now aged about twenty-two years and residing at Millville, Cache County, Utah.

That the said decedent did not leave him surviving any other child than those above named nor the issue of any deceased child. That said deceased left him surviving a widow named Christiana R. Weaver who is now deceased. That the heirs at law and the only heirs at law of said Christiana R. Weaver are the said Frances C. Cummings, Mary J. Hulse, Elmira A. Birch, Franklin E. Weaver, Horace Weaver, George G. Weaver and Hannah M. Davis.

3. That the residue of said estate consists of two parcels of real estate described as follows, to wit: All of lot two (2) in block one (1) in plat "A" of Millville Townsite Survey in the County of Cache, State of Utah, and containing one (1) acre.

All of the rights, titles, and interest of the said deceased and of the estate of said deceased in and to the tract of land described as follows to wit: Beginning at a point fifteen and 30/100 (15.30) chains north of a point seventeen and 25/100 (17.25) chains west of the south east corner of section twenty-two (22) in township eleven (11) north of range One (1) east of the Salt Lake

Meridian, United States Surveys for Utah, and thence running north seventeen degrees and forty-five minutes east fourteen and 16/100 (14.16) chains to the south boundary of townstreet, thence north eighty-eight degrees and fifty-three minutes west twenty-three and 64/100 (23.64) chains along the sough boundary of said town street to the west bank of the Providence and Millville Canal thence along said bank of said canal following the meandre thereof to a point four and 78/100 (4.78) chains south, thirteen degrees and fifteen minutes east of the said last described point; thence along said bank of said canal following the meandre thereof to a point two (2) chains south twenty-three degrees and thirteen minutes east of said last described point thence along said bank of said canal following the meandre thereof to a point three and 76/100 (3.76) chains south nine degrees and forty-three minutes west of said last described point, to the intersection of the said canal with the creek from Garis Spring, thence in an easterly direction up the center of said creek following the meandre thereof about twenty-four (24) chains to the point of beginning and containing twenty-eight and 28/100 (28.28) acres, be the same more or less, the subject to the right of way for field road running in a northerly and southerly direction across said tract.

4. That all of the said heirs excepting the said David Weaver have duly assigned and conveyed to him, the said David Weaver, in pursuance of the said conveyance is entitled to all of the residue of said estate.

And all and singular the law and the premises by the court understood and fully considered, it is Ordered, Adjudged, and Decreed, that all of the residue of the estate of the said Franklin Weaver, deceased, consisting of the real estate in this decree heretofore described, be and the same is hereby distributed to the said David Weaver absolutely and to his heirs and assigns forever.

Done in open Court this eight day of November A. D. nineteen hundred and two. Chas. H. Hart, Judge.³¹

13 February 1904 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

David Weaver, son of Franklin and Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver, died, age 25. Unfortunately, as sole recipient of the single piece of property left by Franklin, he had no spouse, no heirs. Even his mother, Sarah Holmes Weaver, would only live four more years.

Sarah Holmes Weaver was widowed and living at Millville. She had a home at Millville and a dry farm some distance away. The only child at home was David. In the winter he hauled wood for the fire and in the summer he sold cedar posts in Logan to help their finances. One summer he began to suffer many headaches, but kept on working. When he returned from the dry farm that fall, many times he would drop to his knees by a little stream that passed their home and bathe his head in the cool water. The pain persisted and by the last of [January] it was so intense that he consulted a doctor in Logan. Soon he was bedfast and the pain was constant. The doctor told Sarah he had a tumor on his brain. There was nothing he could do. When Sarah could not see him suffer any longer, she knelt by his bed and taking his hands, prayed for the Father to take him. She also dedicated him to the Lord. He passed away a short time later. David had a sweetheart living a short distance away. She came to visit Sarah after David had passed away. During her stay there, she visited David's grave every morning.³²

27 May 1906 - [Indian] Cove, Idaho:

Sarah Clark Weaver received a second patriarchal blessing which was given by Patriarch W. W. Sterrett:

A Patriarchal Blessing by W. W. Sterrett upon the head of Sarah Weaver, daughter of Samuel and Rebecca Clark, born at Clinton County, Ohio Jan. 27, 1831.

My dear and well beloved sister Sarah Weaver, in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth and by the power of the Holy Melchizedek Priesthood I place my hands upon your head and seal upon you a patriarchal blessing. Thou art of the blood and lineage of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob through the loins of Ephraim, a rightful heir to all the blessings promised his children. And now my dear sister, I say unto you that the Lord loves you for the integrity of your heart, for thou hast been faithful now these many years and thy name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life never to be blotted out and thou hast entered into the holy order of marriage and the Lord has had his eye upon thee from thy earliest existence, and thou never will be tempted above what thou art able to bear and your last days will be spent pleasantly among your children and when the time comes you will go down to your grave like a shock of grain fully ripe. Your name will always be held in honor in Israel. You will never want for any of the comforts of life and I seal upon you the blessings of health and strength and rebuke the pains and aches that is [sic] now troubling your system. I seal you up unto Eternal Life to come forth in the morning of the first resurrection and receive an exaltation, thrones, principalities and posterity in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, Amen and Amen.³³

24 May 1908 - Millville, Cache County, Utah:

Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver died. She was seventy years of age. She was buried in the Millville Cemetery.³⁴ Two of her children, David and Lusina, preceded her in death.

25 January 1909 - Cache County, Utah:

Probate files for both Sarah Elizabeth Holmes Weaver and her son David Weaver were filed at the courthouse.

13 March 1910 - Whitney, Franklin County, Idaho:

Gilbert Weaver, Franklin's brother, died. He was seventy-five years of age. He was buried at Whitney. "He had great courage and was true to his God and his Priesthood. He was never called to any great position in the church. In fact, he was one of the many pioneers who gave their all to help colonize the west and yet no credit or mention is made of them or their contributions."³⁵ Some have asked if Franklin, Idaho or Franklin County, Idaho was named after Franklin Weaver. J.I. Young explained in his History and Development of Franklin, Idaho 1860-1900, that Franklin, Idaho was named in honor of church leader Franklin D. Richards.

28 April 1909 - Egin, Fremont County, Idaho:

Miles Joseph Weaver, son of Miles and Sarah Clark Weaver died, aged sixty. He was buried at Parker, Fremont, Idaho.

10 November 1909 - Magrath, Alberta, Canada:

Helen Weaver Shaffer, daughter of Franklin and Sarah Clark Weaver died, aged fifty, at Magrath, Alberta, Canada, and was buried at Magrath.

30 November 1909 - St. David, Cochise County, Arizona:

Rebecca Weaver Merrill, daughter of Miles and Sarah Clark Weaver died, aged fifty-five, and was buried at St. David, Arizona.

Included are the dates of death of *only* the children who preceded their father or their mother in death. Though our story ends at the date of the death of Franklin's last widow, the **family** story never ends. It keeps going on and on forever.

18 February 1910 - Thatcher, Franklin County, Idaho:

Sarah Clark Weaver, the last of Franklin's three widows, died and was buried on the 22nd of February 1910 at Thatcher. She was eighty years of age, and was preceded in death by three of the children she and Miles Weaver had and two of the children she and Franklin had.³⁶

*Grandmother Sarah [Clark] Weaver was a perfect lady. She was calm and composed at all times. She never gave utterance to any words of fault-finding. Her motto was: "If you can't say anything good, don't say anything at all." She reigned as a queen in our home. We all loved her very dearly. She was always thoughtful of others and was a woman of noble character. God bless her memory!*³⁷

June 1918 - Soda Springs, Caribou County, Idaho:

The first³⁸ Weaver family reunion was held in Soda Springs, Caribou County, Idaho. From the June 1918 Soda Spring (Caribou County) Idaho Chieftain, the following story appeared: Weaver Family Hold Big Reunion:

One of the most pleasant events that has occurred in Soda Springs in many a day was the Weaver reunion last Friday at the L.D.S. church. The reunion was to have been held at Hooper Springs, two miles north of town, but on account of the threatening weather it was thought advisable to abandon that idea and hold the exercises in the church.

It has only been a few short months since Mrs. Gilbert Weaver, a most estimable woman, passed away, and it was her desire and wish that the members of her family inaugurate and meet once every year, in June, and hold a reunion in commemoration of

Miles, Franklin and Gilbert Weaver and their descendants. It was her wish that the first gathering be held at the beautiful Hooper Springs near the town of Soda Springs, hence the gathering here last week. There are about 300 descendants of the three Weaver brothers, and 89 were present at the reunion last Friday. This being the first meeting it was not possible for all of them to be present, but it is hoped next year to have all of this interesting family gathered together to talk over the long [ago] past and refreshen their minds with the many noble deeds of their forefathers and to also impress these facts in the minds and hearts of the younger generation of the Weaver blood. Let it be understood that these people are Mormons and THE CHIEFTAIN wants to add that a better class of people do not breathe than do the Mormon people.

It was in 1846 that the president of the United States called on the Mormon Church for 500 able bodied men to help fight Mexico. Brigham Young was then president of the church and he at once issued a call for 500 volunteers. The Mormon Battalion was formed and Miles and Franklin Weaver were among the first to offer their services. There were three women that accompanied their husbands on that famous march to Mexico, and Soda Springs has the honor, now, of having the only living survivor as a resident, Mrs. Albina Williams, one of our finest and best of old ladies and one whom we all love. Mrs. Williams is now 84 years of age and can tell a most interesting story of the hardships and loyalty of the members of the Battalion, who were finally discharged in 1847 in California.

At the reunion last Friday Miles Weaver was represented by one daughter, two grandchildren and eight great grandchildren; Franklin Weaver by three sons and five daughters, eighteen grandchildren and eight great grandchildren, and Gilbert Weaver by four children and 25 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

The exercises at the church were quite interesting from the very first number. The program began with prayer by M. F. Weaver. The address of welcome was delivered by Edward Weaver, the oldest member of this illustrious family. He gave an interesting account of the early history of all this vast country, the object of the gathering at this time, told some interesting Indian stories, and said he was glad to see so many of his relatives banded together for this noble occasion. He welcomed them all and thanked them for coming and he hoped they would all have a genuine good time.

A song by the primary class, 25 in number, "Hark, the Angels are Calling," was well rendered.

Next came a recitation by Mrs. Minerva Weaver, entitled "The Doom of Claudius and Cynthia." This was a most interesting and well delivered number and Mrs. Weaver at once proved herself to be an exceptionally well trained elocutionist.

A piano solo by Miss Edith Matthews was well received.

The historical address was then given by Solomon H. Hale. In starting in Mr. Hale said he didn't know where he would begin, how long he would talk or who he would hit. He gave the enemy a well deserved blow from the very start and praised the Weaver boys, telling of their bravery and usefulness in the early days. Of the many hardships the members of the Mormon Battalion underwent and finally of their great victory. He spoke of the poverty of the Mormon people in the early days and of the "shin curtains" the women were compelled to wear for lack of anything better; of their great faith in the Mormon church and now of the prosperity and plenty that had come to them all. The

backbone of these people is what brought them to the front. He could remember that all his people had to eat in those terrible days was black tailed rabbit and sucker fish, and that they ate so many rabbits that every time they came to a sage bush they would squat down. He first became acquainted with the Weaver family in 1852 and was proud of his relation to so distinguished a family. He admonished the younger generation to emulate the example of their fathers, not in the manner of war necessarily, but in building up the great commonwealth. He paid a glowing and well deserved tribute to Mrs. Albina Williams and pointed her out as one of the faithful members of the Mormon Battalion.

Following Mr. Hale came a duet by Earl and Clair Weaver, than an organ solo by Miss Eliza Weaver and reading by Miss Mae Weaver. A beautiful old-time song by Mrs. Josephine Harris was well received, and a short talk by G. O. Weaver and a song by Adilade Weaver and family were features of the program. These were followed with a stump speech by Mrs. Mirinda Scott which received a hearty encore, remarks by Mrs. M. J. Halse [Husle] and another delightful old-time song by Mrs. Edward Weaver. A recitation by F. Weaver entitled "O'Grady's Goat," was a pleasing number. Wm. Graham delivered a short talk that was interesting and to the point. Mr. Graham made a prophecy that before three years have past the American flag will be flying over Mexico.

Closing remarks were made by Mrs. Marietta Hargraves, after which the vast audience arose and sung "Come, Come, Ye Saints; No Toil Nor Labor Fear."

The exercises being concluded the meeting was adjourned until evening, when this most memorable occasion closed with a good old fashioned ball, in which all took part and enjoyed themselves to a late hour.

Through The Chieftain the Weavers wish to thank the good people of Soda Springs and vicinity for the many courtesies extended them.

May there be many, many more reunions of the Weaver family. And may the memory of Franklin and his loved ones live on forever!

EPILOGUE

Closing remarks and thanks for courtesies extended are now in order for this project, which started out to be a pamphlet and turned into a book. The 1995 edition of the Church's *FamilySearch's Ancestral File 4.15*, lists over seven hundred families descended from Franklin Weaver. Unless one has submitted one's own family to the *Ancestral File* it will not be a part of that data, so realistically speaking, Franklin probably has over 2,000 descendants in 1996, and that figure could double every generation. He is part of the flow of the stream of life that began many eons ago and will continue flowing into the Millenium. One wonders if he had a consciousness of his unique place in history, for he undoubtedly is the one character of focus when considering the history of our family and the role our family played in the development of the history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Franklin entered life "having been born of goodly parents,"³⁹ with an ancestry that has been traced as far back into the nobility of England and Wales as the year 400 AD. And he passed on to his descendants that same goodly heritage. Yet he was an ordinary man who had "seen many afflictions in the course of [his] days."⁴⁰ Franklin performed his duties admirably under extraordinary circumstances. He was a pioneer, not once, but many times. He pushed back the edges of frontiers all his life, and in a variety of ways. Some of the major events that shaped his life include the following points:

1. His family joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at an early date.
2. He experienced the worst of the persecution the Church had to endure.
3. His father died young.
4. His home was burned by a mob who expelled his widowed mother and family.
5. As part of the Mormon Battalion he took part in the longest infantry march in history.
6. He married Christiana Rachel Reed who had also sacrificed much for the Church.
7. He was an original colonizer of Provo, Utah.
8. He was employed by Brigham Young.
9. The pivotal event in his life was the death of his brother, Miles.
10. He married his brother's two widows, each named Sarah.
11. He colonized Cache Valley, Utah.
12. He colonized Bear Lake Valley, Idaho.
13. He devised strategies to avoid federal anti-polygamy agents.

Through it all Franklin kept the faith, "Esto Fidelis," as is the motto on a Weaver coat of arms. So much can be said about the character of this humble yet noble man, and yet, if I remain

true to my pledge not to editorialize too much about his life, I must leave it there. After all, I did not know him personally, I never even knew my grandfather, Riley Weaver, who was Franklin's son. But I did know Henry Duncan Weaver, Riley's son, who was as wonderful and remarkable a person as I have ever known, even though he died young like his father and grandfather.

However, there is a lot more than genetics when it comes to heritage. What Franklin Weaver has handed down to all of us can scarcely be weighed. From every perspective his gifts have kept on giving. Thank you, thank you, dear Franklin!

The foregoing events have been recorded, as explained previously, not for a market, not to entertain, but only to inform. It is hoped that those who are to be informed will feel a strong connection to Franklin. And I pray that the connection that is felt will be one of love and warmth and deep gratitude for what he has contributed to each of us, his descendants.

I was recently impressed by a talk given by President Gordon B. Hinckley at the April 1995 Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I feel much as he does: "For [my] forebears I feel a great sense of gratitude and love, and an almost overwhelming obligation to keep the trust which they have passed. To my beloved [spouse, Earl Martin Shaeffer, Jr.] ... I express appreciation. How empty our lives would be without these, our wonderful companions. How grateful I am for this precious [man] who has walked at my side through sunshine and storm... I likewise speak with gratitude for my children and my grandchildren... who have honored us with the goodness of their lives."

Through this study I have found a healing oneness with Franklin and his dear ones that connects my goals, concerns and challenges to his hopes, fears and trials. I, too, feel as Richard Llewellyn did in describing his feelings in his classic, How Green Was My Valley.⁴¹ He wrote:

I saw behind me those who had gone, and before me, those who are to come. I looked back and saw my father and his father, and all our fathers, and in front, to see my son, and his son, and the sons upon sons beyond.

And their eyes were my eyes.

As I felt, so they had felt, and were to feel, as then, so now, as tomorrow and forever. Then I was not afraid, for I was in a long line that had no beginning, and no end, and the hand of his father grasped my father's hand, and his hand was in mine, and my unborn son took my right hand, and all, up and down the line that stretched from Time That Was, to Time That Is, and Is Not Yet, raised their hands to show the link, and we found that we were one, born of Woman, Son of Man, made in the Image, fashioned in the Womb by the Will of God, the Eternal Father.

NOTES FOR CHAPTER 5:

1. Sarah Harris Mickelson, Life Sketch of Franklin Weaver, MSS in possession of editor, p. 7. Also see Patrick J. Wilde, Treasured Tidbits of Time, an Informal History of Mormon Conquest and Settlement of the Bear Lake Valley. (Montpelier, Idaho): "Early experiences taught the Bennington people to be concerned about the long lonely winter month and they did more than many communities to combat them. Musical talents were developed. Dancing and drama helped fill the void, and the Bennington traveling band became very popular. The band was originally composed of Jesse Dunn, Horace Weaver, Brady Dunn, Riley Weaver, Isaac and William Spiers and George Birch, Pete and Hans Hansen and Harry Short. It traveled throughout the valley and by train to many areas in Wyoming and Idaho."
2. Ida Rachel Weaver Haycock, History of Gilbert Weaver Utah Pioneer of 1848 (Arlington Camp, California Daughters of Utah Pioneers), p. 7. It may be of interest to some that the earliest memory of Henry Duncan Weaver, who was born to Riley and Margaret Duncan Weaver in 1896 and to whom this work is dedicated, was that of his great uncle Gib bringing delicious fruit to Bennington.
3. Wilde, p. 498.
4. Edward W. Tullidge, Tullidge's Histories, Northern Utah and Southern Idaho, Vol. II, (Salt Lake City: Juvenile Instructor, 1889), p. 501. [FHLC#1000614/2]. The editor recalls seeing Franklin Weaver's name, among others, on a brass plaque in the foyer of the Paris, Idaho, Tabernacle, during a visit in 1969.
5. "Tabernacle `embroidered in stone' now 100," Deseret News, Week ending August 5, 1989, Church News section.
6. Mickelson, p. 8.
7. Ibid., p. 9.
8. Franklin and Christianna Rachel Reed Weaver are buried in the Bennington Cemetery at Bennington, Bear Lake Co., Idaho, lot 265, sect. 3.
9. Carl V. Larson, A Data Base of the Mormon Battalion, p. 4, p.179, 180."The U. S. Mormon Battalion Inc. has a medallion which is placed on the gravesite of each of the original Battalion members. The design and use of the marker was approved by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for placement on the gravesites of the Mormon Battalion Veterans. The marker is six inches in diameter and is made of anodized aluminum. It is made so that it can be secured in a block of concrete and set level in the ground next to the Battalion member's headstone."
10. Bennington Cemetery Records, p. 18-20; MSS provided by D. Gary Christian, Salt Lake City. Note: There are numerous Weavers buried in the Bennington Cemetery.
11. Mickelson, p. 9.

12. The Utah Journal, 12 July 1884 [FHLC# 0847763].
13. Diane Kromer, Idaho State Historical Society, personal letter, Oct. 26, 1994.
14. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Hyrum Stake Millville Ward Record of Members, Early-1909 (Salt Lake City, Utah: Historians Office), [FHLC#0026139].
15. Mickelson, Samuel Clark, p. 2.
16. Mary Daines Weaver, and Barbara Weaver, Horace and Adelaide Wright Weaver First Annual Family Reunion August 23-24, 1958. Vol.I, p. 5. Horace, Adelaide and family moved back to Millville in November of 1896 and then back again to Bennington in 1898.
17. National Archives Veterans Records (Application No. 2269; Certificate No. 6521). The file also included a Declaration for Increase of Pension dated Jan. 3, 1893. The file was closed 4 March 1894 because of failure to claim. Rachel died 24 Dec. 1893. Among the file papers were two General Affidavits of witnesses of the marriage of Franklin and Rachel. One was made by Hannah T. Graham, the other by Zelnora Glover.
18. National Archives Veterans Records (Application No. 11198).
19. Ruth Haycock Wynder, Memory Sketch of the Life of Gilbert Weaver, MSS, in possession of R. Wynder, Salt Lake City, UT.
20. Horace Weaver, s. n.: "Horace never owned a home...travelled to many places. He made at least one trip west across the plains and returned to Nebraska around 1885."
21. From an undated and anonymous family history: Horace Weaver "Horace Ratio Weaver was born October 12, 1882 in [New York]. He married Carolyn Parsons July 19, 1849. She was the daughter of Thorit and Mary Page Parsons. She was living at Wayne, Wisconsin at the time of their marriage. This was the second marriage for Horace. It is believed he had two sons from his first marriage and that he and his first wife were divorced. Carolyn's mother died when she was about thirteen years old. She was the oldest child and she assumed the responsibility of keeping house and caring for her younger brothers and sisters. When she and Horace were married she continued to live in her father's home. Horace taught her to read and write. She always spelled words just as they sounded. Ten of their eleven children were born here.
- "Their children were: Mary Lucinda, Mrs. Joseph Baker, Wallace Winfield, Emma Jane, Mrs. Frank Dixon; Dora Bell, died when a child; Edward Thorit, wife Effie Stilwell; Elmas Elsworth, wife Ella Matheney; Hattie Bell, Mrs. Alonzo Welch; and Frank, wife Stella Hickerson. Bert Vedell was born at Hubble, Nebraska and died as a child. Mary was married at Wayne, Wisconsin. The next seven children were married at or near Hubble. Sometime during these years, Carolyn cared for an invalid grandfather. He had lived during the Revolutionary War and the children would climb on his bed to listen to his stories. Carolyn and Horace moved with their family to Hubble, [Thayer Co.] Nebraska about 1870. Horace never owned a home. They lived with their children. Horace traveled to many places. He had made at least one trip west across the plains, and returned to Nebraska around 1885. He was not at Hubble when his sons Elmas and Edward, with their families, moved to Fort Collins, Colorado in 1887. Carolyn went with them. It is not known if he was with the family at Fort Collins, but he was at Bear Lake, Idaho with them in 1888-1889.
- "In the spring of 1889, Horace and Carolyn, Edward and Elmas, with their families, moved to the Boise valley. Horace and Carolyn spent the rest of their lives at Boise. Both are buried there.
- "Joseph and Mary Weaver Baker were married at Wayne, Wisconsin, January 2, 1870. Joseph was born at Wayne, Wisconsin. After their oldest child, Horace DeEight was born, they moved to Kansas on the Blue River. Here Joseph used his soldier's right to claim land. In 1874 they sold this land and bought land on Rose Creek near Hubble, Nebraska. In the spring of 1888 they decided to go to Bear Lake, Idaho Territory. They had eight children. Their youngest child, Robert was born at Ashton, Idaho.
- "They left Nebraska with twenty-eight head of cattle, a span of mules and eight horses, some chickens and

their dog, Ring. When they reached Ft. Collins, Edward, Elmas and Carolyn had started on their journey across the plains about two weeks before. Their son Horace had spent the past year at Ft. Collins with the relatives. He waited there for his family. He had two heifer calves and a cow, and one cow that belonged to his grandmother, Carolyn Weaver. There four animals were put in with the herd of cattle. They reached Bear Lake in September, 1888. The following spring Joseph and Mary took their family to Ashton, Idaho, then Henry's Fork." In the Accelerated Indexing Systems (AIS) Search 7a, Horace Weaver is listed as being in Wayne, Lafayette Co., WI in 1850 and in 1854.

22. Sarah Harris Mickelson, History of Josephine Octavia Ann Weaver Harris, MSS in possession of editor.

23. D. Gary Christian of Salt Lake City, Utah, will publish an account of the trip from Bennington to Alberta some time in 1996 or 1997.

24. National Archives pension files, Mexican War No. A-11198. Several affidavits and witnesses were made by Harlum McBride, Jacob Earl, Thomas Stevenson, Zelnorah Stevenson, Joseph Davis, Jane Scott, Solomon H. Hale, and Gilbert Weaver. The above affiants made declaration in several counties, including Onieda County, Idaho and Cache County, Utah. Each of the above testified of Sarah's marriage to Miles Weaver and alleged that she had never been remarried. If the law did not recognize plural marriage then they were correct. The most interesting documents will be quoted in full:

Territory of Utah, County of Utah:

In the matter of the claim of Sarah Weaver for Pension, on this seventh day of February AD 1895, personally appeared before me, E. S. Jones, Clerk of the County Court in and for said County, and duly authorized to administer oaths, Joseph Clark of the age of 66 years, whose post office address is Provo City, Utah County, Utah Territory, who being duly sworn, declared in relation to said matter of Pension, as follows: "I knew Miles Weaver in the year 1846 at Council Bluffs, Iowa; knew him during service in the Mormon Battalion. I know from my intimate acquaintance with him, that he was never married before he married Sarah Clark (now Weaver). I was present when he was married at Salt Lake City, Utah, Dec. 24, 1848 by Heber C. Kimball, Minister of the Gospel. That said Sarah Weaver, nee Clark, has not remarried, to my knowledge, and is yet the widow of Miles Weaver, and to my knowledge was their first marriage.

"I knew him after his discharge, and up to Dec. 7, 1855, when he died at Lehi, Utah. I personally helped to wash and prepare him for interment and assisted in his burial.

"The above facts are written at my dictation by the aforesaid County Clerk. Said statements are true of my own knowledge, as the facts are known to me to be true. These declarations are set forth in my affidavit embody my personal knowledge and in making them I was not aided or prompted by any other person or by any statement prepared or dictated by any other person." [signed] Joseph Clark (his mark); Witnesses, John H. Mervan, Silar Allred. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of February AD 1895. E. S. Jones, Clerk of the County Court, Utah County, Utah Territory.

The other item of interest is the certification of the Clark family bible:

Certification: I, Joseph Davis, a resident of Preston, Onieda County, State of Idaho, do hereby certify that I am a Notary Public and Prosecuting Attorney in and for the County of Oneide, State of Idaho; That on the morning of June 27, 1908, Sarah C. Weaver, known in this locality as "Grandma Weaver" and the widow of Miles Weaver reputed to have been a member of the Mormon Battalion which went to California and was engaged in the Mexican War; that the said Sarah C. Weaver presented for my examination an old Family Bible containing records of births and marriages, and I certify that the following data was taken from said Bible, to-wit:

FAMILY RECORD

BIRTHS

Joseph Clark, birth April 16th, 1828
Sally Clark, January 27th, 1831
Mary Clark, November 22nd, 1833
Jane Clark, October 19th, 1837
Anna Clark, April 19th, 1841
Elen Clark, January the 5, 1849

Parents:

Samuel Clark, burth december 18th, 1798
Rebecca Clark, August 15th, 1807.

BIRTHS

Rileigh Garner Clark, July 29th, 1829
John Clark, April 20th, 1832
Elizabeth Clark, October 17th, 1835
Emma Clark, November 15th, 1839
Samuel Clark, October month 8, 1845
James Clark, Septemb the 20, 1855

MARRIAGES

Samuel Clark, Rebecca Clark
was married July the 18, 1827.
Sarah Clark was married to Miles Weaver
December the 24th, 1848.
Mary Clark and John M. Higby was married October 28, 1853.

MARRIAGES

Joseph Clark & Sarah Topham was married
Oct. 17, 1849.
Rileigh G. Clark & Amanda Williams was
married March the 20, 1851.

I further certify that the book is in a very delapidated [sic] condition; the front prt is badly torn and part gone; that the index is also in bad condition and partly mouse eaten and parts gone out of it; that the date of publication, or who is the publishers cannot be ascertained from the Bible which contains the afore described records of marriages and births; that a great many leaves from different parts of said bible has gone out from said book; it is a leather bound and has the appearance of consider-age [sic]; that there are no marks of erasures in the entrys of either births or marriages as herein set forth and which is a part of the records as contained in said family Bible, and I certify that it is my firm belief and conviction that said entrys are genuine and were entered therein many years; that the color of the ink has the appearance of age and brings conviction to my mind that the same was written about the time alleged.

I further certify that I have herein set forth a full, true and correct copy of all the births as written in said family Bible, but have ommitted to copy all the records of the marriages of all the children as set forth in said family Bible, but I hereby certify that such part of marriages consumated and as set forth herein, are full, true and correct copies of the same as set forth in said Family Bible. In witness whereof I have herunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 27th day of June 1908. [signed] Joseph Davis, N.P., Preston, Idaho, Com. Expires May, 1812.

25. Allen & Leonard, p. 416.

26. Wynder, MSS.

27. Phebe May Weaver Smith, History of Sarah H. Weaver. MSS, Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Library.

28. Ibid. (Bk. 10; p.242)

29. Ibid. (Bk. 14; p.149; file #2996).

30. Russell R. Rich, Land of the Sky-Blue Water (Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Press, 1963), p. 89. On July 26, 1899 at Bear Lake County, ID, Riley Weaver received a War Deed from his mother Sarah Clark Weaver. (Bk.9; p.263).

31. Cache County Court Records, Probate Book M, pages 355-359 [FHL# 0430995].

32. Wynder, Potpourri of Weaver Stories. A photo of David Weaver shearing sheep is on p.45 of "Millville Memories."

33. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Historian's Office, Patriarchal Blessings, Vol. 151:155.
34. A photo of her tombstone appears on p. 133 of "Millville Memories."
35.
Haycock, History of Gilbert Weaver: His daughter wrote (p. 9): "He was a kind and loving father. I don't think I ever knew anyone more charitable, honest and truthful. His kindness was one of his outstanding traits. Wherever he lived he was called `Uncle Gib' by all. He had great courage and was true to his God and his Priesthood. He was never called to any great position in the church. In fact, he was one of the many pioneers who gave their all to help colonize the west and yet no credit or mention is made of them or their contributions. For this reason, I have written this history."
36. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, FamilySearch, Ancestral File 4.15, 1995.
37. Mickelson, Sarah Clark Weaver, p. 6. For full text, see appendix. Mickelson also wrote of her mother's philosophy of life, which, of course, was largely passed on from her own mother, Sarah Clark Weaver: "Mother [Josephine] was never too busy to sit and give us good advice and show us the straight and narrow way. She never was a fault finder and never criticized her fellow associates or allowed her family to. We would never dare find fault or criticize one person who held responsible positions, not even a Ward [Home] Teacher. We were taught forgiveness of each other and to look for the beauties of this life."
38. However, Arlen Clement in his book, The Valiant Ones, shows photos of the 1914, 1915 and 1916 Weaver reunions in Soda Springs, Idaho.
39. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Book of Mormon, 1 Nephi 1:1.
40. Ibid.
41. Richard Lewellyn, How Green Was My Valley, (London: Michal Joseph LTD, 1939).



The photo above shows the annual Mormon Battalion re-enactment in Sacramento California, Labor Day 2003 where Franklin Weaver was portrayed by Bert Oulicky.