

DR. PRIDDY MEEKS FAMILY REUNION
August 18, 19 and 20, 1995
Parowan, Orderville and Mount Carmel

Val Jackson, Chairman
Norm Jackson, Co-Chairman

Al & Joan Carlson, Secretary
Sylvan & Dorothy Crofts, Treasurer

May 1, 1995

Dear Relatives through Dr. Priddy Meeks:

Thanks for your donation to the Dr. PRIDDY MEEKS Cabin Restoration and Monument project. We hope you are as excited about this special family reunion as we are. This is an opportunity to get acquainted with relatives from all over the United States.

We would certainly appreciate anything you could do to help notify other family members who have not yet contributed. We are relying on you to take information from this letter (especially the Schedule of Events and "color" assignment) and let others know about the reunion. **There is still a GREAT need for more financial donations.**

So, **HOW ARE WE RELATED?** You probably know that Dr. Priddy Meeks had three wives. I will list each wife, names of their children, and the name of the spouse. I will also show the family representative for each line as well as the "color" assignment which has been made for identification purposes at the reunion.

Wife #1

Mary (Polly) Bartlett (married to Priddy March 1815)

Children of Priddy and Polly

1. M Loven (b) 7 Mar 1816 (d) 1847
 2. F Eliza (b) 10 Dec 1817 (d) 1825
 3. M Athe (b) 4 Oct 1819
 4. F Elizabeth (b) 2 July 1823 (d) 3 Oct 1892
(m) Edward Dalton
- Lloyd Dalton
(801) 477-8261
Turquoise

Wife #2

Sarah Mahurin (married to Priddy 24 Dec 1826)

Daughter by her 1st husband Anthony Smith (adopted by Priddy)
Susannah Smith (b) 30 May 1819 (d) Harrisburg
(m) Orson B. Adams

Children of Priddy and Sarah

1. F Mary Jane (b) 29 Sep 1827 (d) 14 Sep 1828
 2. M Stephen Mahurin (b) 30 Mar 1830 (d) 2 Apr 1842
 3. F Huldah (b) 17 Aug 1833
 5. F Sarah Anfelina (b) 9 Nov 1845 (d) 21 Feb 1846
 4. F Margaret Jane (b) 8 May 1838 (d) 12 Mar 1922
(m) Samuel Hamilton
- Rose Ann Ritchie
(801) 896-6215
Silver

Wife #3

Mary Jane McCleve (married to Priddy 14 Nov 1856)

Children of Priddy and Mary Jane

1. M Joseph (b) 13 Dec 1857 (d) 6 Feb 1913 Bill Holman
 (m) Mary Ellen Dorrity 20 Apr 1879 (909) 794-7243

Red & White

Family Dinner (no host) Saturday night 7:00 to 10:00 at Canyon Depot (10 miles East of Kanab on Highway 89). Please RSVP to Bill & LaKay (1740 E. Citrus Ave, Redlands, CA 92374) no later than August 1, 1995. Reservations for lodging is individual responsibility.

2. F Nancy Jane (b)12 Aug 1859 (d)23 Jul 1950 Lynn Asay
 (m) Jerome Asay 1 June 1875 (801) 226-1067

Gold

Nancy Meeks reunion will be held August 19th after 3:00 P.M. at Asay Creek (follow the signs). Bring your own lunch as there are no conveniences available. Come prepared to stay overnight and enjoy a Sunday meeting at Asay Creek. Contact Vern Asay (503) 664-4292 if you have questions.

3. M Hyrum Smith (b) 4 Oct 1861 (d) June 1939 Barbara Meeks
 (m) Patience Maria Hardy 21 Feb 1882 (801) 454-3188

Blue & White

NOTE: Hyrum's two daughters, Thelda Murray and May Stewart are still living!

4. M John Priddy (b) 29 Sep 1863 (d) 11 Oct 1863

5. F Sarah Deseret (b)9 Dec 1864 (d)9 Sep 1954 Dave Lamb (968-3973)
 (m) Edward Lamb 3 Feb 1883 (div) Morris Simkins
 (m) John Morris (801) 628-3449

Orange & White

NOTE: Sarah's daughter, Libby Bagshaw, is still living!

6. F Mary Ellen (b)31 Jan 1867 (d)1 Sep 1947 Sylvan Crofts
 (m) Josian Miller Hoyt 10 Mar 1882 (801) 964-0861

Yellow & Black

The John Edward CROFTS Reunion will be held Saturday August 19th at the Orderville City Park after 3:00 P.M. This reunion will be held in conjunction with the Dr. Priddy Meeks 200th Birthday celebration (you can attend both). Start recording a special memory (or memories) of past J.E. CROFTS reunions to share with the group.

7. M Heber Jesse (b) 9 May 1869 (d) 1 Feb 1934 Kent Meeks
 (m) Clarissa Amanda Bowers 31 Dec 1889 (801) 265-8226

Lavender & White

NOTE: Two of Heber's children, Leah Jackson and Athe Meeks are still living!

The Heber Meeks family will be staying at the Heaton Ranch (or at Parowan).

8. M Charles Mason (b) 31 Mar 1872 (d) 25 Oct 1873

9. F Elizabeth Dalton (b)31 Mar 1874 (d)10 Feb 1954
(m) Norman P. Fackrell 3 Feb 1892 Lois Worlton
(801) 227-7442
Lt Green & Dk Green

NOTE: Elizabeth's daughter, Eula Carlson, is still living!

Descendants of Elizabeth Dalton Meeks Fackrell will meet Saturday evening August 19th between 5:30 and 6:00 at the Paragonah Ward meetinghouse (about 4 miles North of Parowan). A light supper will be served followed by visiting. There is a grassy playground for children.

10. M Alfred Randall (b) 13 May 1877 (d)26 Jun 1961
(m) Malinda Vilate Covington 23 Nov 1904 Mardean Whitney
(801) 968-4234
Rose & White

NOTE: Two of Alfred's children, Vilate Whitney and Dellas Meeks are still living!

The Alfred Meeks family will meet at the Heaton Ranch around 4:00 P.M. for a Pot Luck supper.

Regarding the 'NOTE:' after some of the names listed above, we would just like to bring it to your attention that some of these **Grandchildren of Dr. Priddy Meeks** will be at the reunion. What a rare opportunity this will be to associate with GRANDCHILDREN of such a notable ancestor - especially an ancestor who was alive at the same time George Washington was alive!

Each family is being asked to identify themselves by the assigned color (t-shirts, banners, flags, name tags, arm bands, hats, etc.). Hats or t-shirts could possibly be sold as a fundraiser if you start organizing right away. Such fundraisers could be a good way to raise funds for the Cabin Restoration and Monument projects. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the person listed as the family representative.

More money (and lots of work) is still needed on the restoration project. There is a great need for **Family Members** to donate a day or two of 'labor'. The contractor will be on the cabin site every Saturday to show what needs to be done. If another day is better for you, let him know and he will be there. If you would like to camp out over-night on the property with tents, motor homes, trailers, or sleep in the home where Priddy slept while you are there donating your labor, please come prepared. Bring your rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, etc. because there is lots of clean-up that needs to be done. The location of Dr. Priddy Meek's log home is at Center and 400 West in Parowan. The contractor and carpenter is Boyd Robinson, phone # (801) 477-3605.

Following is a schedule of events for the reunion:

Friday August 18, 1995

(Families will be arriving all throughout the day)

Parowan Fairgrounds Clubhouse - REGISTRATION UPON ARRIVAL

(Voluntary Donations still needed and encouraged)



**Priddy Meeks' Cabin
Parowan, Utah
1851-1862**

DR. PRIDDY MEEKS
Frontiersman, Doctor, Pioneer
by Valton E. Jackson

The smoke from the battles of the American revolution had barely dispersed from our free shores and the ink on our written Constitution newly dried when Priddy Meeks was born, August 29, 1795, in Greenville District, South Carolina. Two hundred years later, as we approach his birthdate, he has eight grandchildren yet living and a posterity in the thousands.

This remarkable man lived the life of a pioneer on the forefront of the Eastern frontier and then later, after joining the L.D.S. Church, the frontier, pioneer life of the West. His father, Athe Meeks, "was inclined to new countries,"¹ where he could farm his own ground and have "a great range to hunt in."² Thus they moved to Kentucky and then Indiana.

While living at the "mouth of Lake Drain, (Indiana) where it emptied into Little Pigeon Creek,"³ Athe Meeks was killed by Indians. "Shot in his own door and wounded my brother Athe, through the arm and knee but he got well."⁴ Priddy was 16 years of age at the time but working away from home.

In his 20th year, 1815, while living in the French Island settlement on the Ohio River, he met, courted and married Mary (Polly) Bartlett. After eight years of marriage and four children, Mary died. Three years later he married a widow lady, Sarah Mahurin Smith.

The difficult life of the frontier exacted a heavy toll on the children. Of the four born to Priddy and Mary, only one, Elizabeth, lived to settle in Utah. She married Edward Dalton and years later the Daltons along with her father, Priddy, helped settle Parowan, Utah. Priddy said that Sarah "made a splendid step mother."⁵ They had five children; all died young, except Margaret Jane.

During this time, two significant experiences shaped his life. First, the death of his little

daughter, Huldah, had a deep and lasting effect on Priddy. He was much upset at the doctors saying, "I am convinced that his medicine killed her."⁶ This stimulated his interest in healing. He had already started doctoring, using faith and local herb remedies when he became acquainted with Thomsonian medicine. Speaking of this, Priddy said, "I could not rest satisfied until I got the books (New Guide to Health); and just two weeks to the day, from the day I got the book I put into the woods to collect medicine."⁷ Thus he began doctoring "and from that time henceforth my labors began with the sick."⁸

The second experience was his introduction to the restored gospel while staying overnight with a long-time friend, Captain James Brown. Priddy began an investigation of Mormonism. He, at first, attempted to show "its cloven foot", but Elder Jacob Houtz used the scriptures so effectively. Priddy told his wife on returning home, "Sarah, if the scriptures are right the Mormons are right and if the scriptures are right we are wrong."⁹

After much discussion and prayer, they entered the waters of baptism; and in April of 1842, they moved to Nauvoo. This was a period of great spiritual growth and increased faith. It was here he became acquainted with many of the Church leaders. Because of his industriousness, his faith as a member, and his work with the sick, he earned their confidence and friendship.

On one occasion, Brother Meeks and his wife Sarah became very ill. His tried and true herbs were not providing the healing. When the Prophet Joseph Smith heard how ill they were, he asked his brother Hyrum to go with him to administer to Brother and Sister Meeks. In the course of their conversation, Dr. Meeks lamented the fact that his first wife and so many children had died and there was only one son, Lovin, to carry on his name.

During the sealing of the anointing, the Prophet Joseph commanded him to be healed,

and while under the influence of the Spirit, "promised them, that they would journey on with the Saints to the Rocky Mountains and raise a family in Zion."¹⁰ Priddy promised the Prophet and Hyrum that the first two boys would be named for them.

Priddy was in Nauvoo at the time of the martyrdom of the Prophet and his brother. Not long after their burial, Priddy was taken by the mob and placed in the Carthage Jail where his friends had been murdered. Through the friendship of the sheriff and others, he was released on bond, but had to hasten his departure from Nauvoo. Thus, early in the spring of 1846, Priddy joined the Mormon exodus to the West. He had a mixed team of two experienced oxen and two untried young bulls. He put together a wagon of mostly wood "that looked like falling to pieces, having no iron about it but the tires."¹¹ He said, "This tried our faith to start on a journey with such a fit out and part of my family left behind."¹²

After months of labor in sleet and mud, pushing wagons and healing the sick, Priddy arrived at the Mormon Camp in Iowa named Mount Pisgah. He went to work fencing and planting five acres in corn, squash, and beans, and built a snug winter home. While here, Priddy responded to a call from the Prophet that won him the respect and friendship of President Brigham Young. President Young, realizing that they would not reach the Rockies that year, suggested a well-equipped vanguard company to prepare the way for the rest to follow. He then made a powerful appeal for the saints to furnish the group with teams, wagons and supplies. When no one stepped forward to donate, Brother Meeks said, "I was so chagrined at this that I arose up in the congregation and said, 'I have but one wagon and team and you shall have them; for it is better for me to stop back five years than to stop the saints from going west as fast as possible.'"¹³

Following Priddy's example, others donated to the cause. When he took the team and

wagon to President Young, the wagon wasn't stout enough, but the two yoke of cattle were used. Uncle John Smith was so touched by Brother Meeks' humble faith, he gave him a blessing, promising that "you shall get ready and cross the plains before Brother _____,"¹⁴ who had four outfits but had declined the invitation to donate. Through the blessings of providence, Brother Meeks was able to get the necessary outfit put together to make the trip the next spring.

The Meeks family comprised eight persons, Priddy, wife Sarah, daughter now grown Elizabeth, Margaret Jane not grown, John Henderson, a lad he had raised, the son and daughter of Orson Adams who had married his adopted daughter Susannah Smith (they went with the Mormon Battalion), and Betsy Parson. Priddy wrote, "Now our hearts swelled with the glorious expectation of leaving our persecutors behind. We started not knowing where we were going or what was ahead of us, trusting in the living God."¹⁵

Traveling in Jedediah Grant's one hundred, Priddy and his group began one of the greatest adventures of his life. During the crossing, a stampede ended up losing sixty-two head of cattle. After eight days of searching, they put together what teams they could and started again. John Young, Brigham's brother, was minus one ox. Hearing that Priddy had a cow that could work, he approached Priddy and said, "Brother Meeks."

"Yes, sir," Priddy answered.

"Well," said he, "we are now organized for traveling if I had one more animal. Will you let me have that cow to fit out?"

"No," I replied.

At this his countenance fell. But said Priddy, "I will tell you what I will do, I will let you have a good ox and will work the cow myself. As she is heavy with calf, and I would

rather work her myself."

'At this he brightened up like a fire in a stubble field, so we all took up the line of march full of the spirit of rejoicing; and while I am speaking of this line of providence resulting from me letting President John Young have an ox, I will trace that line out far enough to show that a person will never lose his reward for doing good."¹⁶

Priddy arrived in the Salt Lake Valley on October 1, 1847. He along with his family began the arduous task of eking out a living in a virgin land. The next four years were spent in the valley, building, farming, hunting, and healing the sick. Concerning these times he wrote, "I was like the old mule; always worked down, but never gave out, for which I must thank the Lord for His blessings upon me, my hardships and sufferings notwithstanding."¹⁷

Though the temporal labors demanded great effort, there were spiritual blessings to inspire and encourage. Priddy said, "Now the first winter that we were in the valley we had most glorious night meetings. The spirit of the Lord was much enjoyed. Preaching, praying, singing, and speaking in tongues and the interpretation of tongues and prophesying was abundantly enjoyed among us."¹⁸

Just about the time Priddy was established in the valley, he was called to help settle Parowan in Southern Utah. So in 1851, he moved his family to this new settlement and began again. His daughter Elizabeth and her husband Edward Dalton went with them. Their first cabin still stands in Parowan and is being restored as part of a city park.

In June of 1852, Priddy and five others, under the direction of Stake President John C. L. Smith, went east over the Cedar Mountains exploring. They went up the Sevier River, crossing over the divide to the head waters of the east fork of the Virgin in what they called Long Valley. He fell in love with this beautiful, peaceful spot and wanted to return to live out

his life.

In the fall of 1856, Priddy traveled to Salt Lake City on business and to attend meetings of the medical society he had helped organize (Society of Health) and was still an officer. When he left, his wife, Sarah, suggested he wasn't getting any younger, so "don't come back without another wife."¹⁹

While in the city, he discussed the matter of a plural wife with John Young, who held Brother Meeks in high regard after letting him have the ox out on the plains. Here is where the line of providence resumes. John Young had married Sarah McCleve. Her family were converts from Belfast Ireland who had traveled to the valley by handcart. Sarah told him about her younger sister and said, "Brother Meeks, go...get your team and harness it to Mr. Young's carriage and Aunt Mary and I will go with you to see Mary Jane; it may be that she will go with you."²⁰ Brother Meeks had intended to return to Parowan the next day and wouldn't have gone with them if he had known how far it was.

When they arrived at the farm where Mary Jane was working, she was down "on all fours scouring the floor. When the dog barked, she looked up and saw and knew Brother Young's carriage, Sister Young, her sister, Sarah, with a strange man dressed precisely as she saw all this in a vision shown to her about three nights before when she knelt...and asked the Lord what she ought to do...about marrying. In the vision she was told that was the man she must go home with. So when she saw me in the carriage, she knew that was the man for her."²¹

While the women talked with Mary Jane, Priddy was having second thoughts, but the spirit whispered, "Just see her countenance and I would know what I ought to do."²² Priddy was somewhat surprised when Aunt Mary told him that Mary Jane would marry him, especially where they hadn't spoken to each other or seen each other's face. Priddy said, "When

I was introduced and shook hands with her...I stepped to the side and let the light shine in her face. Peace sprung up in my troubled soul with a hearty relish for the words, 'Yes take her.' I put me in mind of the poet when he said, 'No tongue can express the sweet comfort and peace of a soul in its earliest love.'²³

Mary Jane was sealed to Priddy by Brigham Young in his office the next morning, November 12, 1856. "Mary Jane was nearly seventeen and I was nearly sixty two years old! People may say what they please about being mismated in age in marriage, but the Lord knows best about these matters. If there was ever a match consummated by the providence of God this one was; and she has borne me ten children, and if anything they were above the average of smartness, all well formed and intelligent. I have often said if I had picked the territory I could not have suited myself as well as in Mary Jane. So I give God the glory while I receive the blessings and exaltation."²⁴

The first child of this marriage was a son named Joseph, then came Hyrum. Thus, Priddy completed the promise made to the Prophet and his brother back in Nauvoo.

In 1862, Priddy moved from Parowan to help settle the Harrisburg-Leeds area in Washington County. Later that year he directed the Berry's and others to Long Valley. In the spring of 1864, this group returned to settle. The Berry's and their group went to the northern end of the valley and established the community of Berryville, now Glendale, Utah.²⁵

The Meeks family preferred the southern end of the valley. They built a large dugout in the south side of a hill. A few others also came and they called this settlement Windsor, after Bishop Windsor of the Grafton Ward who had jurisdiction over Long Valley.²⁶ Today the town is called Mt. Carmel named by John W. Young. The hill the dugout was built in protruded from the west hills eastward to the present Highway 89 and is on the property owned by the

Esplin family. Through their kindness, property has been donated for a monument to be built at that site.

His last son Alfred Randall was born in Priddy's 82nd year. Priddy died in his 92nd year. Sarah lived to be 98, dying in 1900. Mary Jane died in her 93rd year in 1933.

It would seem there is some validity to the medical practice of Dr. Meeks. The last few years have seen the passing of four of his grandchildren: Ida Meeks Balken at 103 yrs. old, Heber Meeks at 95 yrs., Isaiah Meeks at 94 yrs., and Eleanor Asay Gibbons at 93 yrs.

After two hundred years since his birth, eight grandchildren are living, who want to be present at the Meeks family reunion, where they will celebrate the 200th birthday of this man of great faith and learning, Dr. Priddy Meeks. They are: Leah Meeks Jackson, Athe Meeks, Delos Meeks, Vilate Meeks Whitney, Thelda Murray, May Stewart, Libby Bagshaw, and Eula Carlson.

1. Utah Historical Quarterly, Vol. X, p. 146
2. p. 146
3. p. 146
4. p. 146
5. p. 148
6. p. 149
7. p. 150
8. p. 150
9. p. 151
10. Handcart Member Nine, by Wilford Meeks Halladay, p. 26
11. Utah Historical Quarterly, Vol. X, p. 154
12. p. 154
13. p. 158

14. p. 158
15. p. 161
16. pp. 162-3
17. p. 168
18. pp. 172-3
19. p. 188
20. p. 120
21. p. 189
22. p. 190
23. p. 190
24. p. 191
25. History of Kane County, p. 420
26. p. 445

THE LIFE & TIMES OF DR. PRIDDY MEEKS AND HIS PROGENITORS

Although Dr. Meeks left a wonderful journal that is considered by historians to be a Mormon classic, he did not include many events of his life that have been found in public records. Both his journal and public records have been used to write this book. Now, that his posterity can be found to the sixth, seventh and possibly more generations, they need to know of the extraordinary legacy he has left them.

Priddy Meeks was home educated, a hunter, earthquake survivor, log cabin builder, frontiersman, westwarding pioneer, farmer-stockraiser, sometimes school teacher, sheriff, grain mill proprietor, owner-operator of a wood yard. At about age forty, he became a Thomsonian Botanical Doctor and he practiced that profession the rest of his life, tending to the sick and teaching others how to take care of themselves so they would have no need of a doctor.

Priddy Meeks was a convert to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, counselor in a Stake presidency, Bishop, Bishop's counselor, High Counselor, missionary, Nauvoo Temple builder, Temple worker, friend of Apostles, Patriarchs, and Prophets, owner of four Nauvoo House shares, inmate at Carthage Jail, a Mason, partner in wagon shop, fiddler, foster parent, plains "crossor," crickets and seagulls witness, famine participator, Rocky Mountain hunter, co-founder of The (Society) Council of Health, Surgeon's mate and Second Lieutenant in the Iron County Militia, Parowan City Councilman, explorer, and more importantly to him, a family man: a son, brother, husband, father, and grandfather to his loved ones.

5

Meeks, Mary Jane
Birth-Date: September 29, 1827

Child-Number: 3
Meeks, Steven Mahurin
Birth-Date: March 30, 1830

Child-Number: 4
Meeks, Hildah
Birth-Date: August 17, 1833

Child-Number: 5
Meeks, Margaret Jane
Birth-Date: May 8, 1838

Child-Number: 6
Meeks, Sarah Angeline
Birth-Date: November 9, 1845

|S5 Marriage-Number: 3
Spouse's-Name: McCleve, Mary Jane
Reference: Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah. Eschom, Frank. 1913
Page: 1030

Marriage-Date: November 13, 1856
Reference: Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah. Eschom, Frank. 1913
Page: 1030

Marriage-Place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT, USA
Reference: Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah. Eschom, Frank. 1913
Page: 1030

Family-Reference for Children: Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah. Eschom, Frank. 1913
Page: 1030

Children's-Data:

Child-Number: 1
Meeks, Joseph
Birth-Date: December 13, 1857

Child-Number: 2
Meeks, Nancy
Birth-Date: August 12, 1859

Child-Number: 3
Meeks, Hyrum
Birth-Date: October 4, 1861

Child-Number: 4
Meeks, John Priddy
Birth-Date: September 29, 1863

6

Child-Number: 5
Meeks, Sarah Deseret
Birth-Date: December 9, 1864

Child-Number: 6
Meeks, Mary Ellen
Birth-Date: January 31, 1867

Child-Number: 7
Meeks, Heber Jesse
Birth-Date: May 9, 1869

Child-Number: 8
Meeks, Charles Mason
Birth-Date: March 31, 1872

Child-Number: 9
Meeks, Elizabeth Dalton
Birth-Date: March 31, 1874

Child-Number: 10
Meeks, Alfred Randall
Birth-Date: May 13, 1877

|s6 Death-Data:
Death-Date: 1886
Reference: Guide to Mormon Diaries & Autobiographies. Bitton, Davis

|s7 Church-Ordinance-Data:
Patriarchal-Blessing
Patriarchal-Date/Place: December 17, 1843
Officiator: Hyrum Smith
Reference: Book of Patriarchal Blessings Index
Volume: 3 Page: 257

Baptism
Baptism-Date/Place: 1840
Reference: Guide to Mormon Diaries & Autobiographies. Bitton, Davi

High-Priest
Reference: Nauvoo Temple Endowment Register 1845-46

|s8 Temple-Ordinance-Data:
Baptism
Temple: Provo, Utah, UT, USA
Reference: Temple Patron Notification Reference

Endowment
Temple: Nauvoo, Hancock, IL, USA
Date: December 31, 1845
Reference: Nauvoo Temple Endowment Register 1845-46

|s10 Residency-Data:

Iron County, UT, USA; 1850

Parowan, Iron, UT, USA; 1860

Reference: Utah Federal Census; Year: 1851, 1860

|s11 Vocation-Data:

Physician; 1850

Farmer; 1860

Reference: Utah Federal Census; Year: 1851, 1860

|s12 Comments: #1

1. In 1850, Priddy had a household of 3 and a real wealth of \$500..

2. In 1860, he had a household of 6, a real wealth of \$300, and a personal wealth of \$1000.

Reference: Utah Federal Census; Year: 1851, 1860

|s13 Comments: #2

1. Priddy came to Utah on October 2, 1847 with the Jedediah M. Grant Company.

Reference: Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah. Eschom, Frank. 1913
Page: 1030

|s14 Comments: #3

1. From the autobiography of Priddy Meeks: First wife, Mary Bartlett died at Spencer County, Indiana in 1818. He moved to Illinois in 1833. Joined the Mormon Church in 1840. He was in Nauvoo, Illinois from 1842 to 1846. He crossed the plains in 1847. He volunteered to go to Parowan, Utah in 1851. Priddy lived in Harrisburg, Washington, Utah from 1861 to 1876. Then he moved to Orderville, 1876.

Another version, 1812-1886. Was so successful at "doctoring" in Illinois, that people insisted he become a doctor by profession. He studied Thomsonian medicine. Account of conversion to Mormonism. He bought shares in the Nauvoo House. Brigham Young told the Saints that the Mormon Battalion would be the salvation of the Church. Hunting trips in Utah. Pioneer medical practices. Visions. Recollections of health conditions in Nauvoo ("It was so desperately sickly."). Council of Health organized, 1848-49, president. Seerstones in Parowan. Evil spirits and witches. Wife insisted that he take another wife. Rascality of Harrisburg people. Blood atonement planned for author. Felt defrauded by neighbors, so moved to Orderville. Views on proper treatment of certain diseases. History of medical practice. Case histories. Lists of herbs. Recipes. Was always an "anti-poison man."

Reference: Guide to Mormon Diaries & Autobiographies. Bitton, Davis
Autobiography of Priddy Meeks

|s15 Comments: #4

1. Priddy was part of the Kiryon pioneer Company.

Reference: Pioneers of 1847. Easton, S.
Roster of Pioneers of 1847

Davis Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Auto (1977)

It is hard to believe that any group of comparable size, with the possible exception of the Puritans and the Quakers has been so relentless as the Mormons in writing diaries and autobiographies. At least this was true in the past century; whether or not the tradition is continuing with equal fervor is unclear. Some Mormon diaries have been known about, used, and even edited and published. Wilford Woodruff, Priddy Meeks, Hosea Stout, and John D. Lee are but a few of the diarists whose importance has long been recognized. Whether the value is as literature, folklore, history, biography, or a mixture of all of these, the richness of the Mormon tradition of personal record keeping is beyond dispute.

Marriages in Nauvoo Pg. 40

MEEKS, Elizabeth

Born: 2 July 1823 in Spencer, Indiana Daughter of Priddy Meeks and Mary Bartlett

Married: 31 March 1842 to Philander Avery at Lee, Iowa

Ellsworth and McArthur Handcart Companies Pg. 43

MCCLEAVE, Mary Jane

Born: 21 August 1840 near Belfast, Down, Ireland

Daughter of John McCleave and Nancy Jane McFerren

Married: 13 November 1856 to Dr. Priddy Meeks

Died: 19 January 1933

Susan Black and Larry Porter, Bio, Mor Battalion

ORSON BENNETT ADAMS (1815-1901)

MILITARY SERVICE: 3rd Sergeant, Company C

Enlisted: 16 July 1846, Council Bluffs, Iowa Territory (age 31)

Captain James Brown's Detachment: Pueblo (Santa Fe), 17 October 1847

Discharged: 16 July 1847

Bounty Land Claim: 61765-160-47

Survivor's Pension: 19 March 1887, Washington County, Utah

BIRTH: 9 March 1815, Alexander, Genesee County, New York

Son of Elisha Bennett Adams and Asenath Camp

FIRST MARRIAGE: Susanna Smith, 20 March 1836

Daughter of Anthony Smith and Sarah Mahuren

Birth: 30 May 1819, Grayson County, Kentucky

Children: Mary Jane Adams, 11 April 1838, Brown County, Illinois

Martha Jane Adams, 21 February 1841, Brown County, Illinois

John S. (Page) Adams, 11 May 1844, Macedonia, Franklin County, Illinois

Susanna Adams, 3 June 1853, Paragonah, Iron County, Utah

Jane Averet Adams

Death: 23 January 1892, Leeds, Washington County, Utah

Burial: Leeds, Washington County, Utah

SECOND MARRIAGE: Margaret Jane Carter, 20 November 1852, Parowan, Iron County, Utah (plural wife)

THIRD MARRIAGE: Dorothy Roberts (Frost), 10 February 1856 (plural wife)

FOURTH MARRIAGE: Dorothy Martin, 10 November 1856 (plural wife)

FIFTH MARRIAGE: Charlotte Elizabeth Gingell, 21 July 1859 (plural wife)

SIXTH MARRIAGE: Lucinda Thorp (plural wife)

DEATH: 4 February 1901, Leeds, Washington County, Utah (age 85)

BURIAL: February 1901, Leeds City Cemetery, Leeds, Washington County, Utah

Orson and his first wife resided in Morgan Park, Cook County, Illinois, from 1838 to 1841. They removed to Macedonia, Franklin County, Illinois, in 1844 (Life Sketch, Orson Adams). In Illinois, Orson united with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Following his baptism he was ordained a seventy. He received the endowment on 5 January 1846 in the Nauvoo Temple (Nauvoo Temple Register). Religious persecution forced him to flee from Illinois to Iowa Territory.

Burial: February 1901, Leeds, Washington County, Utah
 DEATH: 23 January 1892, Leeds, Washington County, Utah (age 72)
 BURIAL: Leeds City Cemetery, Leeds, Washington County, Utah

Susanna's father died just before she was born and she was reared by her step-father, Dr. Priddy Meeks. Dr. Meeks moved with she and her extended family from Kentucky to Illinois in 1833.

After her marriage to Orson, they resided in Morgan Park, Cook County, Illinois, from 1838 through 1841. During their residency she was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in March 1840. Their infant daughters, Mary Jane and Martha Jane, died on 1 August 1838 and 1 March 1841, respectively (Carter, Heart, 12:73). The sorrowing couple moved to Macedonia, Franklin County, Illinois, in 1844. Because of religious persecution, they were forced to flee from Illinois to Iowa Territory (Priddy Meeks' Journal).

In Council Bluffs, they adopted a three-year-old boy named John S. Page. Susanna left this small son with her mother when she accompanied Orson on the Mormon Battalion trek. On the march from Council Bluffs to Santa Fe, she served as a laundress and a cook. Later she became known as a nurse because of the relief she gave to the sick and afflicted in Company C. Susanna and Orson accompanied the sick detachment to Fort Pueblo (Carter, Heart, 12:73). After wintering in the fort, they migrated with the Battalion to the Salt Lake Valley, arriving on 27 July 1847.

Susanna resided in Parowan, Iron County, Utah, for thirteen years. In Parowan she was set apart as a midwife (Carter, Heart, 12:73). From Parowan she removed to Harrisburg, Washington County, Utah. Susanna was the first of six wives sealed to Orson. She was sealed to him on 12 May 1852 (TIB).

S. Black and L. Porter, BYU, Biographies, Mor Battalion

Edward Dalton (1827-1896)

P

MILITARY SERVICE: Private, Company C

Enlisted: 16 July 1846, Council Bluffs, Iowa Territory (age 19)

Lieutenant William Wesley Willis's Detachment: Pueblo (Rio Grande), 10 November 1846

Discharged: 16 July 1847

Widow's Pension: Lizzina Elizabeth Warren Dalton, 20 July 1896, Utah

Utah War

Black Hawk Indian War

Captain, Iron County Militia

BIRTH: 3 (24) March 1827, Wysox, Bradford, Pennsylvania

Son of John Dalton and Rebecca Turner Cranmer

FIRST MARRIAGE: Elizabeth Meeks, 6 April 1848

Daughter of Priddy Meeks and Mary Bartlett

Birth: 2 July 1823, Spencer County, Indiana

Children: Hulda (Halda) Amanda Dalton, 6 December 1848, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah

Sarah Cedenia Dalton, 8 September 1850, Mill Creek, Salt Lake, Utah

Edward Meeks Dalton, 25 August 1852, Parowan, Iron, Utah

Joseph Priddy Dalton, 17 September 1854, Parowan, Iron, Utah

John Cranmer Dalton, 9 January 1857, Parowan, Iron, Utah

Franklin Stephen Dalton, 26 February 1859, Parowan, Iron, Utah

Ida Mary Dalton, 9 November 1861, Parowan, Iron, Utah

Ada Elizabeth Dalton, 9 November 1861, Parowan, Iron, Utah

Death: 3 October 1892, Parowan, Iron, Utah

SECOND MARRIAGE: Lizzina Elizabeth Warren, 14 June 1882, St. George, Washington, Utah (plural marriage)

Daughter of James Warren and Martha Harrell

Birth: 27 September 1865, Edgecomb County, North Carolina

Children: Randall Warren Dalton, 9 June 1883, Parowan, Iron, Utah

James Edward Dalton, 16 February 1885, Manassa, Conejos, Colorado

Martha Rebeces Dalton, 3 October 1886, Manassa, Conejos, Colorado

Ida Dalton, 13 February 1888, Manassa, Conejos, Colorado

Journal History, 28 Feb 1841, Branch, Brown County, Ill

Priddy Meeks,
Sarah Meeks,
Albert Baker,
Polly Baker,
Eliza Ann Bickmore,
Mary Jane Bickmore,
Sarah Ann Bickmore,
Sarah Moore,
Clarissa Moore,
Ephan A. Moore,
Calvin Moore,
Nancy, Wildon,
Jesse Lowder,
Thomas Briggs,
Polly Briggs,

Journal History, 22 May 1841. (Zoar, 1841)

Saturday, May 22. At a conference held this day in the branch of Moroni (formerly called Zoar), in Brown County, Ill., Priddy Meeks was set apart as Bishop, instead of James Brown who was gone to Nauvoo; William Bickmore was ordained a High Priest and set apart as a counselor to Bishop Meeks; Stephen Abbott was the other counselor. Thomas Briggs was then ordained a High Priest and set apart as a counselor to the President of the branch, instead of Priddy Meeks. (Orig. on file) (See Zoar, 1841)

Journal History, 17 Jul 1846, from Brigham Young, History

[1846] Pres. Brigham Young went to meeting and proposed that brethren be selected to take care of the families who were left by the volunteers. The following were selected to act as Bishops: Charles Bird, Isaac Morley, John A. Wolf, Ellis M. Sanders, Asa Davis, Abraham Hoagland, Priddy Meeks, Jacob Myers, Caleb Haight, Andrew H. Perkins, Thomas Guyman, Sandford Holman, John Murdock, Roswell Stevens, Jonathan H. Hale, Levi W. Hanco Madison D. Hambleton, William Draper Jun., Edson Whipple, Isaac C. Haight, William Perkins, Roland Cobb, Benjamin Willis, John Tanner, Ute Perkins, James Allred, Daniel Spencer, Samuel Shepherd, Seth Taft, John T. Tanner, Sidney Tanner, George Coulson, George W. Harris, William Blackhurst, Lewis Zobriski, Jeremiah Root, James Bean, William Simmons, George Bundy, Henry W. Miller, Joseph Meacham, Sidney Knowlton, Hazen Kimbal James S. Kimball, James Huntsman, James H. Rollins, John Shaw, Samuel Parrish, Daniel Russell, Samuel Russell, William Henry, James Eastman, John Benbow, John P. Barnard, Charles Chapman, Job Barnum, Benjamin F. Bird, Andrew Burnham, Jonathan C. Wright, Samuel Conrad, Erastus Root, Hector C. Haight, James Davis, Justin Merrills, Allen Taylor, Alfred Randall, Abraham O. Smoot, James M. Lellin, Frederick Van Leaven, Thomas Pearson, Samuel Turnbow, James Dunn, Newman Buckley, Luther Bunnell, John Van Cott, James N. Jones, Isaac Houston, Moses Clawson, Samuel Snider, James Lake, Robert Gibson, Raymond Clark, Jesse C. Little, Andrew Cunningham, Hiram Spencer, Daniel Hendricks, John Vance, and Evan M. Greene.

Susan Black, Comp., Early LDS Member Records: Meeks, Priddy (Male)

Comments:

In 1850, Priddy had a household of 3 and a real wealth of \$500..2. In 1860, he had a household of 6, a real wealth of \$300, and a personal wealth of \$1000.

Comments: #21. Priddy came to Utah on October 2, 1847 with the Jedediah M. Grant Company. ReferencePioneers and Prominent Men of Utah. Esshom, Frank. 1913 Page: 1030

Comments: #31. From the autobiography of Priddy Meeks: First wife, Mary Bartlett died at Spencer County, Indiana in 1818. He moved to Illinois in 1833. Joined the Mormon Church in 1840. He was in Nauvoo, Illinois from 1842 to 1846. He crossed the plains in 1847. He volunteered to go to Parowan, Utah in 1851. Priddy lived in Harrisburg, Washington, Utah from 1861 to 1876. Then he moved to Orderville, 1876. Another version, 1812-1886. Was so successful at "doctoring" in Illinois, that people insisted he become a doctor by profession. He studied Thomsonian medicine. Account of conversion to Mormonism. He bought shares in the Nauvoo House. Brigham Young

told the Saints that the Mormon Battalion would be the salvation of the Church. Hunting trips in Utah. Pioneer medical practices. Visions. Recollections of health conditions in Nauvoo ("It was so desperately sickly."). Council of Health organized, 1848-49, president. Seerstones in Parowan. Evil spirits and witches. Wife insisted that he take another wife. Rascality of Harrisburg people. Blood atonement planned for author. Felt defrauded by neighbors, so moved to Orderville. Views on proper treatment of certain diseases. History of medical practice. Case histories. Lists of herbs. Recipes. Was always an "anti-poison man."

Comments: #41. Priddy was part of the Kinyon pioneer Company.

Susan Black, Comp., Early LDS Member Records: Smith, Susannah (Female)

Comments:

Susannah was adopted by Priddy Meeks.

Guide to Mormon Diaries & Autobiographies. Bitton, Davis

Autobiography of Priddy Meeks

Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah. Esshom, Frank. 1913

Page: 1030

Nauvoo City Taxes; Year: 1842

Nauvoo Property Transactions; Year: 1843

Nauvoo Social History Project. Smith, James

Utah Federal Census; Year: 1851, 1860

Mormons and Their Neighbors. Wiggins, Marvin

Our Pioneer Heritage. Carter, Kate. 1958

Volume: 2 Page: 80

History of Kane County, p. 427, 525

Nauvoo Temple Endowment Register 1845-46

Temple Patron Notification Reference

Pioneers of 1847. Easton, S.

Roster of Pioneers of 1847

Book of Patriarchal Blessings Index

Volume: 3 Page: 257

Utah Historical Quarterly

Volume: 10 Page: 145-233

Guide to Mormon Diaries & Autobiographies. Bitton, Davis

Autobiography of Priddy Meeks

Book Reviews, BYU Studies, Vol. 15, No. 4, p.541

Davis Bitten does not pretend to present a complete volume of Mormon humor. Rather, he has compiled a small collection of passages that he especially liked, "curious situations," not necessarily "humorous in a strict sense," drawn either from early Utah newspapers or from material in the Church Historical Department. The concept is refreshing, and some of the selections are choice, even hilarious. Most memorable is the extract from Perrigrine Sessions' Diary of 1853 about Sarah Kirkman rattling a chain at night to frighten her husband into believing he was being punished for failing to say his prayers. Almost as amusing is an account taken from an 1880 Juvenile Instructor describing playful boys teasing a sleeping member in church. Priddy Meeks' colorful 1850 advice on dress standards could bring needed perspective to modern-day zealots. And the Deseret News' detailed, practical explanation of the Word of Wisdom is a gem.

Betty L. Barton, BYU Studies, Vol. 18, No. 1, p.67

My family went several months without a satisfying meal of vitals [Priddy Meeks recorded in his journal]. I went sometimes a mile up Jordan to a patch of wild roses to get the berries to eat which I would eat as rappid as a hog stems and all. I shot hawks and crows and they ate well. I would go and search the mire holes and find cattle dead and fleece off what meat I could and eat it. We used wolf meat which I thought was good and made some wooden spades to dig segoes with but we could not supply our wants. We had to exert ourselves to get something to eat. I would

take a grubbing hoe and a sack and start by sunrise in the morning and go, I thought six miles before coming to where the thisel roots grew, and in time to get home I would have a bushel and sometimes more thisel roots. And we would eat them raw. I would dig until I grew weak and faint and sit down and eat a root and then begin again. I continued this until the roots began to fail.6