

PART 7: APPENDIX

JAMES REID AUTOBIOGRAPHY

JAMES REID born April 29, 1853, at Torrace Moore, Wigtonshire, Scotland.

At the age of 4 or 5 years, my mother married and went away leaving me in the care of my maternal grandparents.

When 10 years of age, with my grandparents, we sailed for America on April 30, 1863. We first landed in Liverpool, England. Embarked on the ship Antarctic, for America. It took 7 weeks and 3 days from Liverpool to New York. 750 people were on the vessel. Lots of sickness and death occurred on the ship. Most of the sickness was due to measles, many died and were left in watery graves.

We landed at Castle Gardens, N.Y., then marched from there to the railroad station, which was perhaps 1/2 mile. Boarded a street car that was pulled by 6 mules which took us out of the main city to the railroad station. We traveled by train to St. Joseph, Mo. We were transferred from St. Joseph to Florence, Neb. by a steamboat, traveling up the Missouri river. We went onto Omaha, Neb. and secured cooking utensils, which consisted of a frying pan, Dutch oven and a stew kettle. These were to be used while crossing the plains.

In Omaha we met the Mormon teamsters from Salt Lake, they were to take us to Utah. There were about 75 wagons with 8 oxen for each wagon. It made a long line of wagons a mile or more in length.

I remember a very severe thunder storm when we first started out on the plains by Omaha. It was the worst storm I ever witnessed. The ground was covered by an inch or more of water after the storm. That was the only storm while we were on the road. There were some very exciting and interesting experiences happened as we came along.

One time a herd of buffalo blocked the road and the men had to get them moving before we could proceed. There was plenty of buffalo meat and fish to eat all along the way. There was very little sickness and death on our trek.

We landed in Salt Lake about the first of October, in time for general conference. We stayed in Salt Lake until the following May. While we were in Salt Lake, my grandfather worked at the Quarry where they were getting the granite for the Salt Lake Temple, and I drove an oxen and hauled the granite down to the place where it was transferred to the temple site.

In May 1864, we left Salt Lake along with several other families as we were sent to Beaver, Utah. In Beaver we couldn't get a house to live in, so grandfather rented a cellar for \$1.00 per month. During the summer we got out timber and built a large one room house and the following winter we were warm and comfortable. A fireplace was used to cook our food and heat the cabin.

In the summer of 1864, I was baptized and confirmed a member of the LDS Church. Ordained a deacon in 1866, and appointed Secretary of the Quorum. After 3

years I was appointed 1st counselor. I was made an Elder of the church about 1871. This office I held for 53 yrs.

Married Harriet Valentine on Dec. 25, 1876. Eight children were born in Beaver, Utah. We had a ranch in North Creek where we spent our summers and a five-room brick home in town, where the children attend school and church. I worked away from home a good deal, doing carpenter work. Working in Panguitch, Minersville and Milford, it was necessary to leave my family for a month at a time.

We heard of a place flowing with milk and honey. Wanting to spend more time at home, decided to sell our property and leave. In September of 1897, with our five living children and a wagon loaded with provisions, a sewing machine, pillows which had \$1,000 sewn inside and 20 yards of new rag carpet, we arrived in Lucerne Valley, known now as Manila, Utah.

Some of our neighbors had enticed us to come and they gave us a warm reception. There were 8 in the Nelson family and 7 in my family living in a dugout for about 30 days until we could get timber and build a cabin.

The provisions we had brought to see us through the winter were shared with the other families and did not last long.

I was appointed Presiding Elder and had charge of the Sunday Schools and meetings for three years. I was founder of the place now known as Manila, Utah. My house was the first built here. One child was born Dec. 13, 1898.

At first, we thought this was an ideal place to run our cattle but soon found out that the outlaws and cattle rustlers were too much for us. Our cattle dwindled and the calf crop was taken until at last we decided to go over into Ashley Valley. It was Sept. 1899 when we arrived there. So well do I remember! My wife baked a fresh apple pie in the Dutch oven coals. It really tasted good.

Jan. 6, 1900, I traded my last 10 head of cattle for ten acres of land in the Glines ward. There we made our home. I worked at carpenter work and took my pay in store trade that winter.

Was called as a ward teacher in 1900. And served in that capacity for 35 years, until health and age made it impossible to act.

On Sept. 16, 1902, the tenth child was born. After her birth my wife's health was broken and she became an invalid. All medical help was secured but to no avail. She passed away Aug. 28, 1923. On August 28, 1924, we were sealed by the Holy Spirit of Promise for time and eternity.

Was ordained as a High Priest in 1925.

Due to old age and ill health I went to live with my daughter in Neola, Utah, in 1935, where I remained until 1938.