

Stories for Children
from the
Homer Family History
and other sources

Russell King Homer Family
and some ancestors

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Russell King Homer Family Association
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Welcome!

The following stories for children are gleaned from the *Homer Family History* by Rachel Maretta Homer Crockett, and other sources, as further identified on the pages of the stories. We are grateful to Rachel for recording these stories and bringing them to life for future generations.

Teaching Valuable Lessons

These stories can be used by parents and teachers to teach the values of hard work, courage, compassion, obedience, kindness, commitment to family and church, and more.

Family History Information

The genealogical information presented in the pedigree section of the book is still in progress – to determine accuracy. We suggest that you use Family Tree (familysearch.org) to make corrections and communicate through “discussions” to share information with other members of the family.

200th Birthday

The 200th birthday of Russell King Homer is July 15, 2015. The family is planning a special celebration. Please check with the family web site for further information: www.russellkinghomer.org.



1. Russell's Childhood

Living in the Wilderness

In the tradition of many of the men in the family, when Russell's father, Benjamin Cobb Homer, was a young man, he had gone to sea. But the seafaring life did not agree with his health, so he moved to Onondaga County, New York, to take up farming. There he met Anna Warner. They married and settled on timbered land.

Building a Log Cabin

Benjamin and Anna cleared the trees off the land and used the logs to build a house with several rooms and a barn to house livestock and chickens. The logs were chinked and daubed with mud and covered with a heavy coating of brush and dirt to keep out the summer heat and the winter cold and provide protection from wild animals and Indians.

Providing Food and Clothing – in the Wilderness

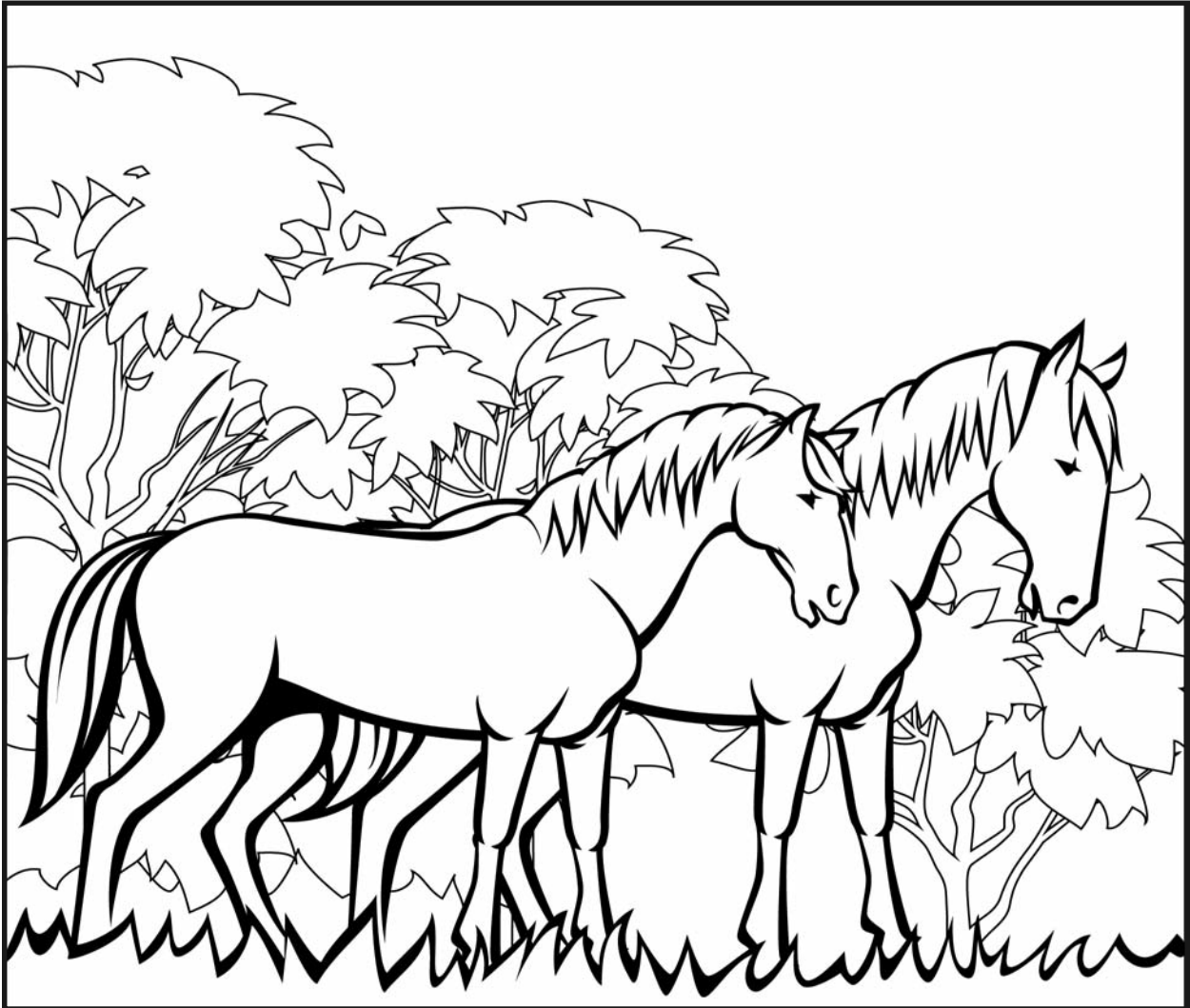
Benjamin and Anna had plenty of food. They raised corn and other vegetables and the woods were full of game. They kept the ordinary domestic farm animals (cows, pigs, chickens, sheep) to supply the family needs, including sufficient sheep to provide wool for Anna to spin and weave into homespun clothing and bedding.

Anna was often spinning or sewing while she sat with the family around the huge fireplace, in one end of the living room. All of the cooking was done over the fire, and it was the only source of light and heat. The fireplace was the center of their family life.

Learning to Read and Write – Around the Fireplace

Anna was learned far beyond the average woman of her time. As the family sat around the fireplace in the winter evenings she taught her family to read and write. She had few books except the family Bible, and the children learned to read and recite Bible verses – almost from cover to cover.

Anna loved to sing, and she taught her family many songs and ballads, as well as gospel hymns. She told stories and folk-lore of both early American history and Indian legends.



2. Caring for Horses

Benjamin Homer's Veterinarian Skills

Russell's father, Benjamin Cobb Homer, studied the care and doctoring of animals, especially horses, and became the only veterinarian in the area where they lived in New York. When they moved to Crawford County, Pennsylvania, his health would not permit him to do the hard farm labor he had previously been able to

do. Since his growing sons were now able to take over the more difficult farm work, he turned his attention to the rearing and caring of good horses. He soon had some very fine horse stock, which he advertised by exhibiting at the various county fairs. Through a careful selection of his stock, honest dealing, and strict attention to the care of his horses, he built up a thriving business and a good reputation as an authority on all questions pertaining to horses.

Helping the Mormons Prepare for the Trek West

Years later, after Russell married and moved West with the Saints, the valuable veterinarian training and experience he had gained from his father helped him prepare pioneer families with the appropriate horses and oxen for the trek West.

A Favorite Thoroughbred Stallion

After Benjamin's death, Russell went back to Pennsylvania to look after his father's estate. He had inherited his father's favorite mare "Bett," but she was too old to make the trip West, so he left the mare with his brother, William H. Homer.

Fifty years later, Russell's son, William H. Homer, while living in Oxford, Idaho, sent to Kentucky for a thoroughbred stallion. When the horse arrived, he discovered that the horse's pedigree included the mare "Bett," bred and owned by his grandfather: Benjamin C. Homer of Crawford County, Pennsylvania.



2. Meeting Joseph Smith

Benjamin and Anna Homer moved from New York to Crawford County, Pennsylvania, when Russell was about 12 years old. They thought it was a better climate, and there were more people living in the area. Once again, they purchased a piece of timber land, cleared the trees off the land, used the logs to build a new home, and planted crops.

A Stranger on Horseback

When Russell was about 15 years old, he was riding horses with his friends in the nearby woods. Russell remembers:

“We saw a man coming towards us on horseback. He was a very handsome man on a magnificent black horse, and his whole appearance was so striking that we were amazed. It looked as if he sat in the air above the horse.”

When he came even with the boys, he halted the horse and asked for directions to a place nearby. Russell answered and gave him directions. The stranger then asked, “My boy, what is your name?”

“My name is Russell Homer,” he answered.

The stranger then said, “My name is Joseph Smith and, my boy, you will join the church that has just been organized and go with the Saints to the Rocky Mountains and stand up and bear your testimony to the truthfulness of the everlasting gospel.”

At that time, Russell had no idea what he was talking about, but it made a deep impression upon him and was never forgotten. Throughout his life, he shared this incident many times with his family and friends.



4. Marriage and Honeymoon in Erie, New York

When Russell's family lived in New York, the Williamson family was their neighbors. Their daughter Eliza, was the same age as Russell. The Homers and the Williamsons became close friends. When the Homers moved to Crawford County, Pennsylvania, the Williamsons went with them, and the two families had farms near each other. Eliza and Russell became childhood sweethearts.

Later on, in the summer of 1836, Eliza returned to New York to visit with friends and relatives. After being gone for several months, she sent word to her mother that she was homesick and would like to return to Pennsylvania.

Her mother, Nancy Williamson, reported this to the Homer family and asked Russell if he would like to go to New York to get Eliza. He replied, "I don't know of anything I would like better, especially if I could bring a wife back with me."

Mrs. Williamson happily responded, "I don't know of anything I would like better for a Christmas present than to have you as a son-in-law."

Before leaving, Russell procured some elegant clothes: a swallow-tailed coat, a fine linen shirt, a high stove-pipe hat, knee breeches, and high-top boots.

Russell later said, "I was as proud as a gallant knight of old setting out to rescue my lady fair and bring her back to a home of her own."

Eliza and Russell were married 20 December 1836 near Erie, New York. They spent the Christmas holidays honeymooning in and around that city, and rode on the first steamboat to sail on Lake Erie. They had such a good time that Russell had soon spent all his money. He sold his new boots to get enough money to complete the journey home.



5. Building a Log Cabin

Russell and Eliza's first home was a log cabin – the logs were from the trees they cut down to clear the area where the house later stood. They also made their furniture from the logs – table, stools and bed.

The house had a family fireplace with a big iron pot and a

bake oven for cooking. But, they didn't have matches at that time, so it was sometimes a hard job to start a fire. They tried to keep the fire burning all the time, but one time when the fire went out, Russell had to walk seven miles through the woods, to the nearest neighbor, to get a start for the fire. He carried the small fire home in a big iron pot. He had to stop many times to add small pieces of wood to the fire – to keep it burning.

Keeping Wild Animals Away

Sometimes they had to build a big fire to scare away wild animals – especially when they had young animals of their own, or had recently killed an animal for meat. Russell would watch the fire throughout the night to be sure it didn't spread into the surrounding forest.

First Two Children

Russell and Eliza lived in their log home for several years, and their first two children were born in this home.

However, it was a very sad time in their life when their first daughter, Elizabeth, only lived a few days.

The next year brought much happiness when their son, Edmund, was born. He was a strong, healthy baby.



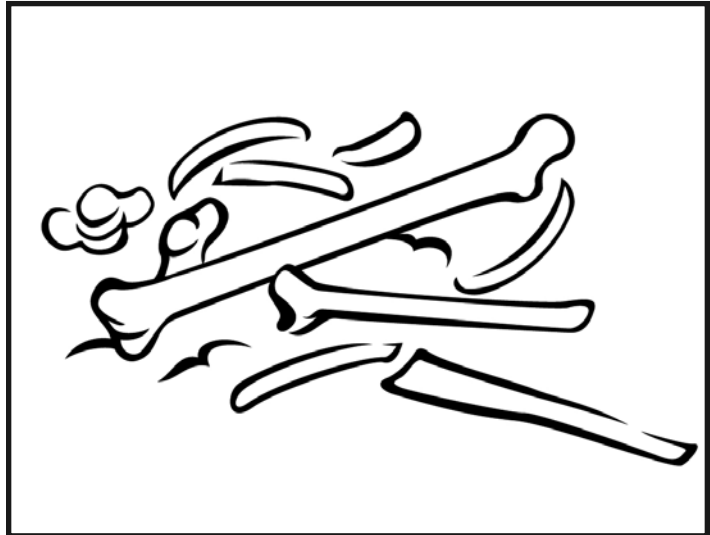
6. A Gift of *The Book of Mormon*

While living in Pennsylvania, a stranger stopped by and asked for a night's lodging. Russell readily welcomed him and went out to help him unhitch and care for his horses.

The man took a book out of his wagon and said, "I think your name is Homer. Here is a book your friend Martin Harris sent you."

Russell later said, "As I took the book in my hand, a voice said distinctly in my ear, 'that is a history of those

bones you used to play with'. I looked around and could see no one. I was sure it was not the man who presented the book as he was looking at me and he had not spoken, and there was not anyone else around."



This book was *The Book of Mormon*.

Russell was deeply impressed by this experience, and related it many times throughout his life, in connection with his testimony of the Gospel.

A History of the Indians

The next day Russell started to read *The Book of Mormon*. The more he read the more interested he became. When he finished it, he was convinced that it was the true history of the American Indians that it also contained the fulness of the Everlasting Gospel.

Russell became very anxious to go to the headquarters of the Mormon Church, which was in Kirtland, Ohio, at that time.



7. Prophetic Promise from Joseph Smith

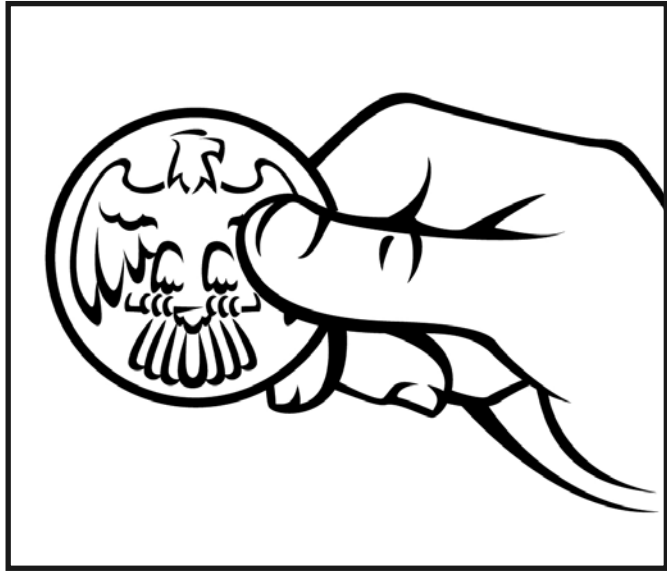
Soon after Russell King Homer received *The Book of Mormon*, he tried to persuade Eliza to go with him to Kirtland. She was not as interested in this new religion, but eventually consented to go. They invited Eliza's sister and her husband to go with them.

Meeting the Prophet

When they arrived in Kirtland, church was in session and the Prophet Joseph Smith was speaking. He mentioned the poverty of

the Church, and said that some funds were needed immediately.

After the meeting, Joseph came down through the congregation shaking hands. As he came near to Russell, Martin Harris stepped forward to introduce them.



As Russell shook Joseph's hand, he slipped a \$10 gold piece into his hand. The prophet looked at the money and said, "Mr. Homer, money was never needed worse or put to a better use than this will be. This is indeed 'bread cast upon the waters' and will be returned to you and yours. Neither you nor your family shall ever want for bread."

Anxious to Learn More

Russell was so impressed with what he heard that he would not leave the room to get lunch for fear he might not get back in time for the next session. He listened carefully to every word and wished to get baptized before he left Kirtland, but his wife, Eliza, was a devout member of the Dutch Church and was very satisfied with her religion. Russell wanted them to join this new Church together, so he returned home without being baptized.



8. A Priesthood Blessing and Baptisms

Russell continued to be very interested in the Mormon people and their doctrines. When he heard that the Mormons had established the city of Nauvoo, he was determined to go to there.

As they were traveling westward, they camped near the present site of Springfield, Illinois. Their next son, William Harrison, was born in their covered wagon.

Although Russell had become thoroughly converted to the Gospel as taught by the Mormons, he didn't want to join the church

without his wife, Eliza. She remained faithful to the Dutch Church, and insisted that she had no wish to change. But in the year 1844 she suffered a severe sick spell. Her son, William Harrison Homer, remembers:

Baptism in Icy Water

“Mother was sick for a long time – all summer until winter. The doctors could do her no good. Up to this time she had not been baptized.

“Some elders came to see her and promised her that if she would get baptized she would get well. Accordingly, mother was taken out of her sick bed, placed on a sled and hauled to the creek. The ice was about three feet thick.

“Mother was placed on a sheet and four men, one at each corner, let her down into the water and baptized her, first for the remission of her sins and then for her health.

“She was replaced on the sled, well protected from the cold, and taken home and put into bed with the wet sheets around her.

“Next morning she got up entirely well, dressed herself and went about her usual housework, and ever after that she had no use for doctors.”

Another son, Edmund Homer, recalled:

“The snow was very deep and the ice was thick. It looked like looking into a grave or vault, the ice was so thick.

“She was carried to the creek, baptized and carried back, put to bed and properly cared for. Instead of dying, as had been predicted, she is . . . now in her 94th year.

“I have a vivid recollection of this occurrence, and bear my testimony to all to whom it may concern that the above statement is true and correct.”

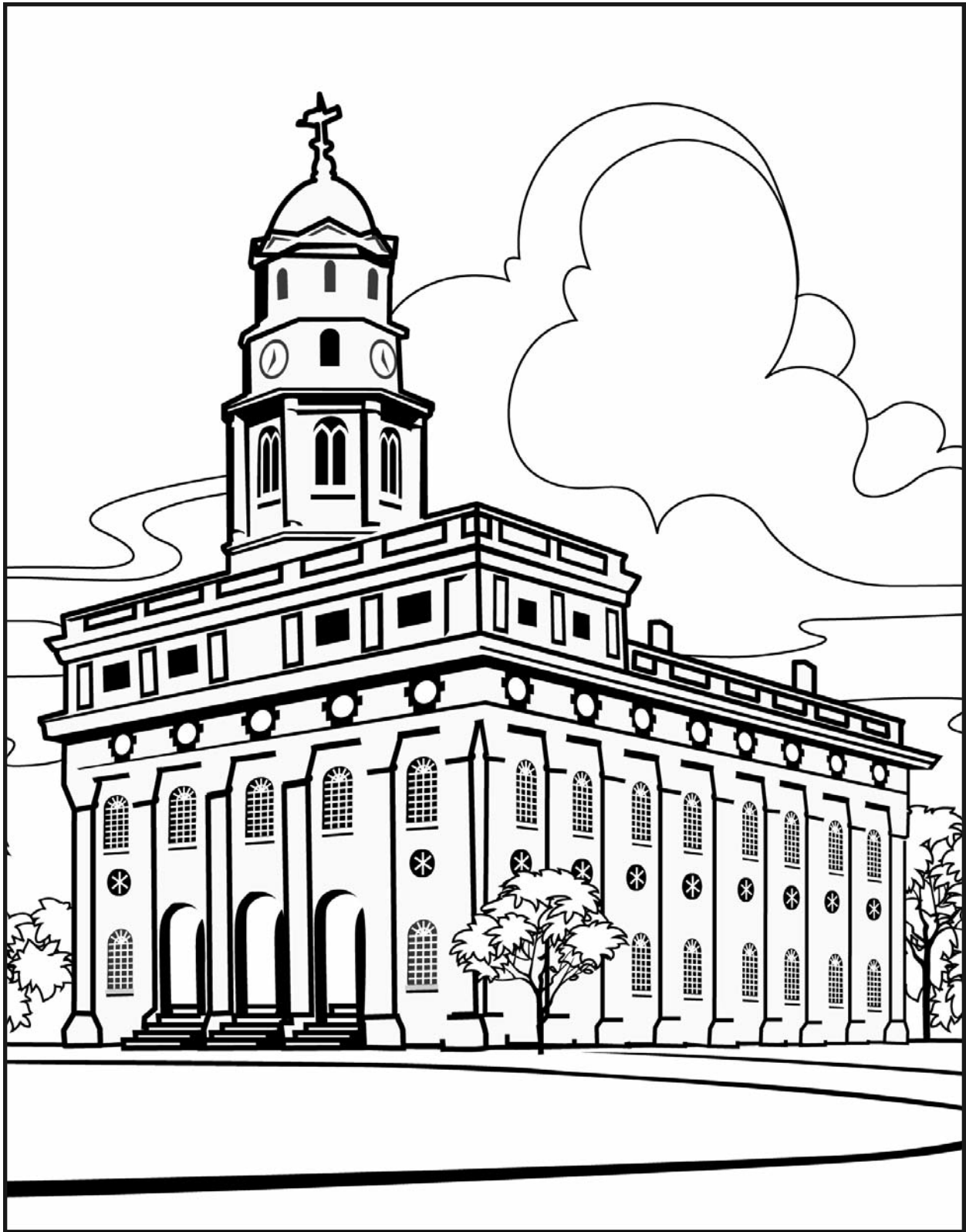
Baptism in the Nauvoo Temple

Russell King Homer was baptized in the Nauvoo Temple on 21 March 1844. The Prophet said Russell had been converted for so long, and had done so much to help the Church, that he was worthy to be ordained to the higher Priesthood, so he was ordained an Elder the same day. Later in life, he said he wished he had held the Aaronic Priesthood, if for only a short time, as he felt as though he had missed something.

Faithful Members of the Church

After baptism, Eliza and Russell both embraced the Gospel with firm conviction, and remained steadfast and faithful to it from then on – as long as they lived. They cast their lot with the Saints, for better or worse, and cooperated in every way to further the cause of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ.

(The story of Eliza’s baptism, as told by her sons, William Harrison and Edmund, can be found in the Homer Family History, pages 157 and 158.)



Russell King Homer was baptized in the Nauvoo Temple

9. Living Among the Pottawatomie Indians

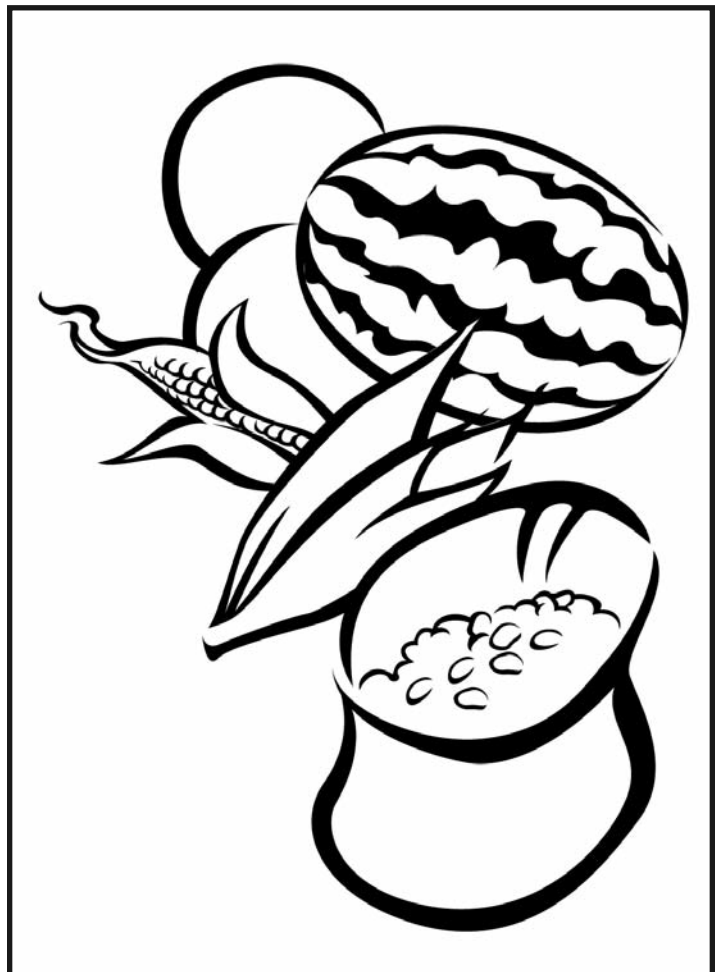
The Exodus from Nauvoo

After the death of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Russell and Eliza joined the Saints in their exodus from Nauvoo. They first traveled into Iowa as far as Garden Grove, where they planted crops for the other pioneers who would come later.

Friendly Indians

They traveled on from Garden Grove to the Missouri River where they stopped among the Pottawatomie Indians. The Indians were friendly and gave them corn, beans, melons, and other foods.

Russell settled the family there and went to Missouri to work – to get supplies for his family and others whose fathers and husbands had been called



to serve with the Mormon Battalion. Russell husked corn and cut cordwood, and received corn for his pay.

Welcoming the Indians

Later, Russell owned a trading post on the East side of the Missouri River, and traded with immigrants, Indians, trappers and hunters. They also managed a post office.

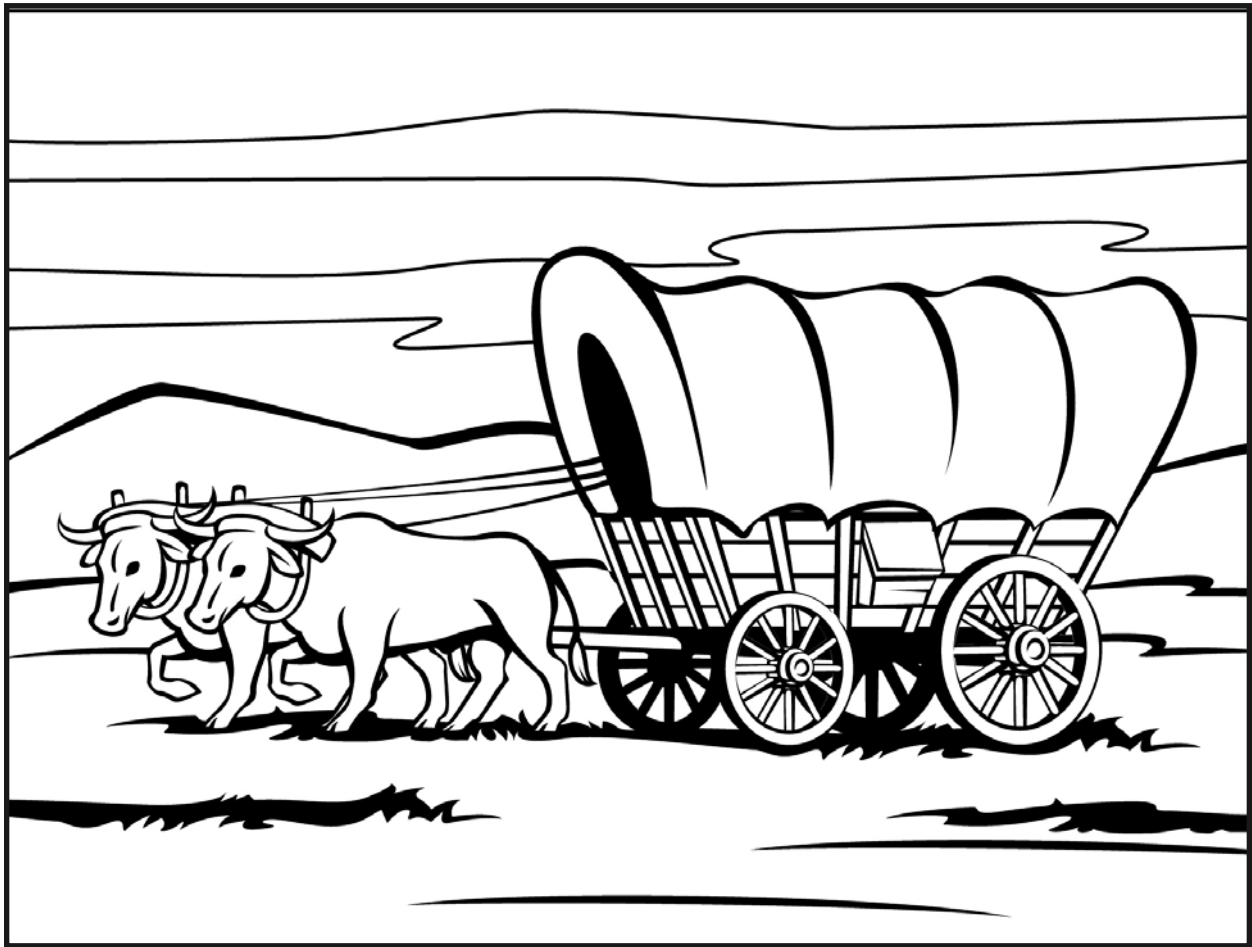
The main camp of the Indians was on the West side of the River. Sometimes, as many as fifty Indians crossed the river in small canoes to buy or sell at the trading post. If a strong wind came up, making it difficult to return across the river, Eliza invited them to stay for the night – even when Russell was gone on business.

The Indians would lie on the floor, wrapped in their blankets – sometimes covering the entire floor.

Their son, William Harrison, remembers them sleeping on the floor as “close as sardines packed in a can.”

Eliza also helped nurse the Indians when they were ill. When Russell was gone, the children would sleep in the bedroom with her.

Eliza said: “Why should I be afraid, I was their friend and they knew it, and any one of them would have defended me against danger.”



10. Wagons Ready to Roll

In the Spring of 1847, Russell King Homer was among the members chosen to make up the first company of pioneers to cross the plains – to locate a permanent home for the Saints. He arrived in Winter Quarters with the necessary teams, wagons, and supplies – for his family and for his neighbor, Almond Williams. However, other Saints were taking much longer to get ready.

Two weeks later, Heber C. Kimball visited with Russell. He recognized Russell’s experience and expertise in choosing and

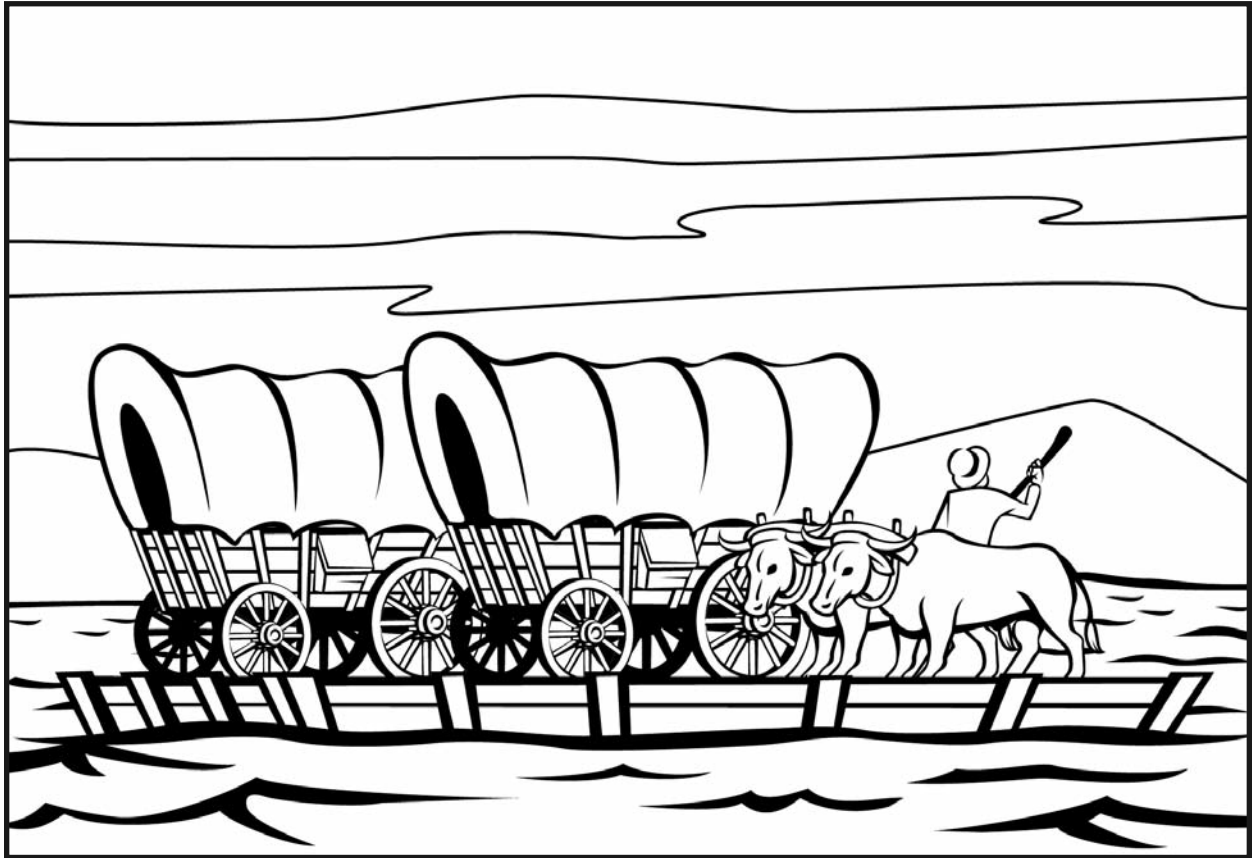
caring for the animals and said, "Brother Homer, you are just the man we need to stay and inspect all the horses and cattle before they start across the plains – to see that none start that may not be able to finish the trip. We also need someone to look after the Church cattle here. Since some of your family are sick, and need you, you had better stay and attend to that business and let Brother Williams drive your teams." This plan was followed, and Brother Williams returned the outfit the next year to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Management of Church Cattle

For the next two years, Russell took charge of the Church cattle and supervised the outfitting of the saints before they left Winter Quarters. The wagons and teams were expensive, but Russell let some of the pioneers pay as much as they were able, as a down payment, and pay the balance later, when they were financially able.

Gratitude of Pioneers

Many years later, when Russell settled in Clarkston, Bishop Jardine was so glad to see him. He excitedly said, "Why, Brother Homer, you are the man who sold us the cattle that brought us across the Plains. I had worked in the coal mines in Scotland all my life and had just arrived in America. I hardly knew a cow from a horse, and could so easily have been duped, but that yoke of cattle served us well for the trip and for many years after."



11. Establishing a Ferry Across Missouri River

In addition to helping the Saints cross the Missouri River, to begin their trek across the plains to Utah, Russell established three ferrys to also help those traveling on to Oregon or California. At times the pioneers were lined up for days – waiting their turn to be ferried across the river.

The ferry consisted of flat-boats that were hand propelled by oars. This was the only means of crossing the river for several years. In this business, Russell became personally acquainted with many people, and handled quite large sums of money.

A Friendly Indian Warning

Once, just after a large wagon train had been ferried across the river, Russell was informed by a friendly Indian that there was a plot by some evil men to rob him. Russell filled a money belt with several pounds of gold, and proceeded to swim across the Missouri River, in the dark of night.

Russell slid quietly into the water and lay on his back, swimming quietly across the river to the opposite shore. He landed a half mile further down the river. After hiding the money in a safe place he swam back up the river, and returned home – without even being missed.

Creating a Freight Business

In January of 1849 Russell joined with other partners to create “The Great Salt Lake Carrying Company” – a business for carrying persons and goods from the Missouri River to Sutters Fort in California. The company guaranteed to furnish the very best in transportation that was available: good teams, reliable teamsters, and light spring wagons that could each carry three persons, besides the teamsters. Each passenger was allowed 150 pounds of baggage. One of the owners would be in Salt Lake City to relay with fresh horses and supplies – for the last part of the journey to California.



12. Terrible Storms and Illness

In the spring of 1849, Russell King Homer signed a contract to haul freight for the company of Livingston and Kinkaid, merchants from St. Louis who opened the first general merchandise store in Salt Lake City.

With a crew of eight men, one being his brother Ben Homer, they loaded seven prairie schooners (covered wagons) with goods, and left early in the spring for Salt Lake City. They expected to return to Iowa in the fall. At first they made very good time, but the

men contracted cholera as they traveled. Although they eventually recovered, they had a difficult time getting the goods delivered on time, and didn't arrive until fall. After they delivered the merchandise, they sold the wagons and the tired horses. They prepared to return quickly to the settlement on the Missouri River by riding saddle horses and carrying their supplies on pack mules.

Snow Blizzards and Illness

There were quite a number of Church people in the return company; Orson Hyde was starting on his first mission to Palestine, and Orson Pratt was going to New York on business for the Church. They started later than originally planned, and got caught in a terrible blizzard in Nebraska, which held them up for several days.

Russell caught a severe cold, which developed into pneumonia. Fortunately, they found an old abandoned shack, where he lay very ill for several days.

During the final leg of the journey, they passed through more heavy snow storms. The men became separated from each other, but all arrived safely. However, all of the animals were lost, except one horse. Russell and Ben were the last to arrive at the settlement in Iowa. Eliza welcomed them with open arms, with gratitude to God for their safe return.

The illnesses on this trip effected Russell's health for the rest of his life.

13. Homer Hotel in Crescent City, Iowa

Returning to Pennsylvania

In the Spring of 1852, Russell received word that his father, Benjamin Cobb Homer, had died in Pennsylvania and that Russell had been named the executor of his father's estate. He felt the importance of this matter, and also had a desire to see his relatives and old friends. They sold out all their holdings in Iowa and took their family back to Pennsylvania.

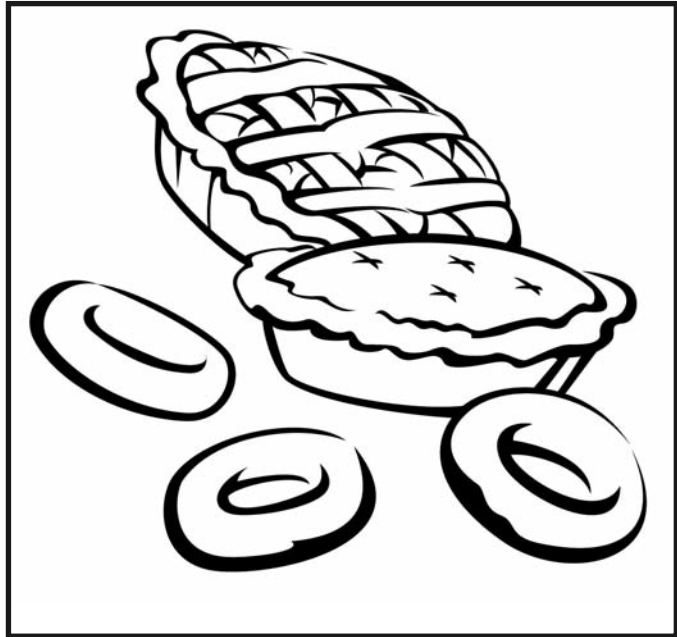
The folks in Pennsylvania were very prejudiced against the Mormons, so they never did come to an understanding about religion. After settling the estate, and providing for his mother and sister, Russell and Eliza bid farewell to their early home and kindred, and turned Westward again. Eliza's mother, Nancy Sickles Williamson, went with them.

Returning to Iowa, they homesteaded a farm on North Pigeon Creek, near a little town called Bethlehem, 13 miles North of Council Bluffs. Two years later they moved into Crescent City and opened up a real estate office and a hotel.

Famous for Pies and Doughnuts

The hotel was called the Homer House and it soon became well known. Eliza was such a good cook she became famous for her

pies and doughnuts. Relatives and friends went miles out of their way to get some of her food. The Homer House entertained all missionaries free of charge as they passed through, either going to their fields of labor or returning home.



Missionaries Called Home

William Harrison Homer (son of Russell and Eliza) recalls: "During the winter of 1857-58, all the missionaries were called home on account of the Johnston's Army episode. As many as fifty of them sat down at our table at one time. Sixteen missionaries were too late to go with the last company across the Plains and stayed with us all winter. Mother did their laundry, mending, and darning, besides keeping and boarding them all winter."

At the earliest opportunity, Russell found ways for all of them to cross the Plains, and completely outfitted some of them for their return trip to Salt Lake. To pay their way, some of the missionaries worked as teamsters, and helped in various ways in the companies traveling to the Great Salt Lake Valley.



14. A Truce with the Indians

The following story is from the diary of Russell's son, William Harrison Homer, who was 12 yrs. old at the time of this incident.

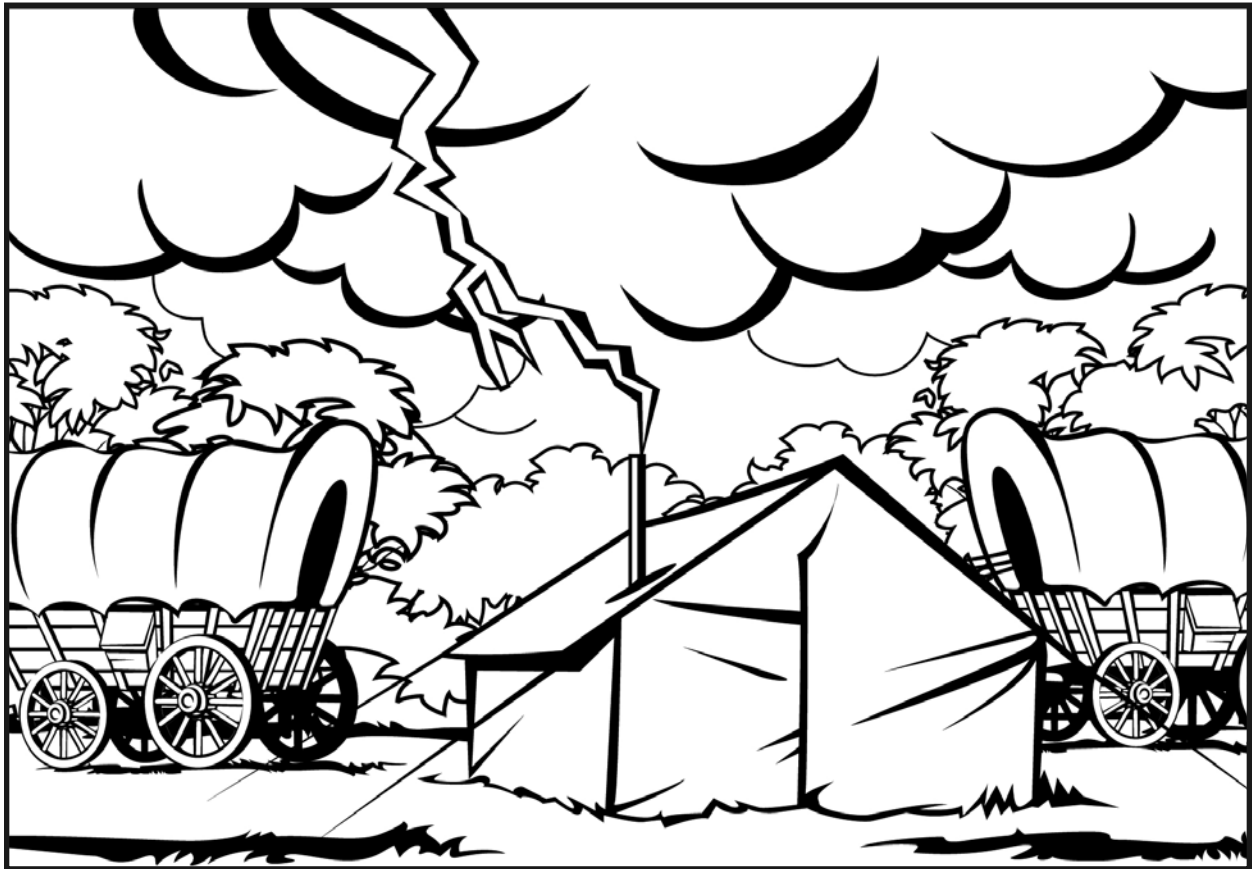
"On one occasion we seemed about to meet our fate at the hands of Sioux Indians on the warpath. Deckerd out in war paint and feathers, a band of these fierce-looking fellows swooped down upon us about four o'clock in the afternoon, circling around our wagon train.

“Captain Homer, understanding the situation, called all the teams to a halt and sent out a man with a white flag to meet them. They kept coming closer, whooping and yelling until they were quite close to the man with the flag, when their chieftain held up his hand and they all stopped. He came forward alone on a beautiful white pony; he spoke to the man with the flag, and after a brief conversation asked to talk to the big white chief.

“After very impressive preparations, father went out to meet the Indian chief, who demanded great quantities of flour, sugar, tobacco, and beef cattle. After some time spent in parlying, they agreed to settle for a much smaller amount and various trinkets – beads, mirrors, bandanna handkerchiefs, etc.

“The chief, very gratified, then said, ‘I see you are peaceful travelers wishing to pass through our country, and we will make a dance in your honor,’ which they did.

“When all matters were satisfactorily settled, the chief took father to one side and said, ‘There are hostile tribes of Indians ahead watching for wagon trains, and if the great white chief so desires, we will go along to protect your company; however we would prefer to keep out of sight, but will see that no harm comes to the white chief and his friends.’ This offer was gladly accepted and he kept his word. We caught glimpses of them in the distance for a few days, but they did not come near us; and that was the last of our Indian troubles.”



15. Lightning Strikes and Priesthood Blessings

The following story is from the diary of Russell's son, William Harrison Homer, who was 12 yrs. old at the time of this incident.

"One night when we camped on Wood river, near its junction with the Platte, we had just got our cook tent pitched when it started to rain. How it poured down – accompanied by fierce thunder and lightning! Everybody rushed for cover, and sixteen people crowded into our tent.

"Mother was near the stove cooking; I was on the ground behind the stove. I heard a heavy clap of thunder, and the next thing

I knew it was the next day and we were traveling along in the wagon. Mother told me how the tent had been struck and everybody stunned. I was the last to come to. Mother was the worst injured; she was badly burned about her feet and legs, her shoes were torn off and her clothing was torn and burned."

Faith and Administration of the Priesthood

The journal of Christopher Olsen Folkman tells the following:

"A young girl [Lovisa Matilda Homer] was struck by the electric power and fell to the ground as if she was dead. Brother Homer called to me and told me to anoint her, which I did. She soon regained consciousness, but was considerably burned and had to stay in bed several days.

"A few moments later, Homer again called to me and asked me to anoint his little son [William Harrison Homer] who was yet lying as if he was dead. I laid hands upon him and prayed for him, and at once he showed signs of life. After I had breathed into his mouth he came to life, and the day after he was out driving cattle.

"Many of the brethren took sick as time went on, but I and Brother [Christian Daniel] Fjeldsted administered to them and they were soon well again."

The information from the journal of Folkman, Christopher Olsen, [Reminiscences], is in Pioneer Pathways [1998], 7:236-37. Church History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.



16. Saving the Baby in a Terrible Storm

While living in Swan Lake, Idaho, the sixth child of Russell and Eliza Thornton (Russell's second wife) was born in mid-winter (January, 1873). The snow was deep and it was impossible to get a doctor to attend her. Eliza was attended by a mid-wife, but developed pneumonia after the birth and passed away, leaving the baby (David) and five other children without a mother.

Motherless Children

This was indeed a serious situation, so Russell determined to take the children to his first wife, Eliza (Williamson), as soon as the

winter broke to permit the trip. This was a very difficult trip for the family of young children (Marinda 12, Joshua 10, Sarah 8, Rebecca 5, Rachel 3 and baby David).

Trekking Through the Mud and Slush

Russell's daughter, Rachel, remembers the trip as follows:

"I was one of those children, and though only three years old at the time, I well remember a great deal concerning that awful trip through the mud and slush. We were many days on the way, encountering high water in many places where there were no bridges and other places where the bridges were washed out.

"When we came to Cub River, a few miles north of Richmond, it was dark and raining and the bridge was washed out. We were all damp and hungry. The supply of milk for our three-month old baby brother had run out.

A Washed-Out Bridge

"Father used an old tin lantern to light the way in the darkness ahead of the horses. As we approached the stream, he saw that the bridge was gone, but a new one had been started and there were enough planks across the framework so that it was possible to crawl across to the other side.

"It was decided that our brother Josh, who was 10 years old, and a young woman, Adelia Petty, whom father had hired to take

care of the baby, would crawl across the bridge and take the baby to Richmond on foot, while the rest of us would have to stay there until morning.

A Welcome Midnight Refuge

“They got across the stream and trudged along in the sticky mud through the rain, arriving at Richmond about midnight, where they found a welcome refuge in the home of Louis Petty, who was a brother to the young woman. (This young lady, soon after that episode, married our brother, John Homer.)

Crossing the Bridge, a Piece at a Time

“The next morning, early, men came to work on the bridge. They took the wagon to pieces, rolled the wheels across one at a time, then ferried the wagon box across the water. Father carried us children across the planks on his shoulders.

Sarah Rolled into the Creek

“As we were passing Wellsville Creek two days later – father had rolled the wagon cover back so we children could get the sun – Sarah rolled off the back of the wagon into the creek. She was soaked through and her nose was bleeding. She had to be stripped down and wrapped in a blanket.

Crossing Mountains Full of Snow

“It was still very cold weather and the mountains ahead of us

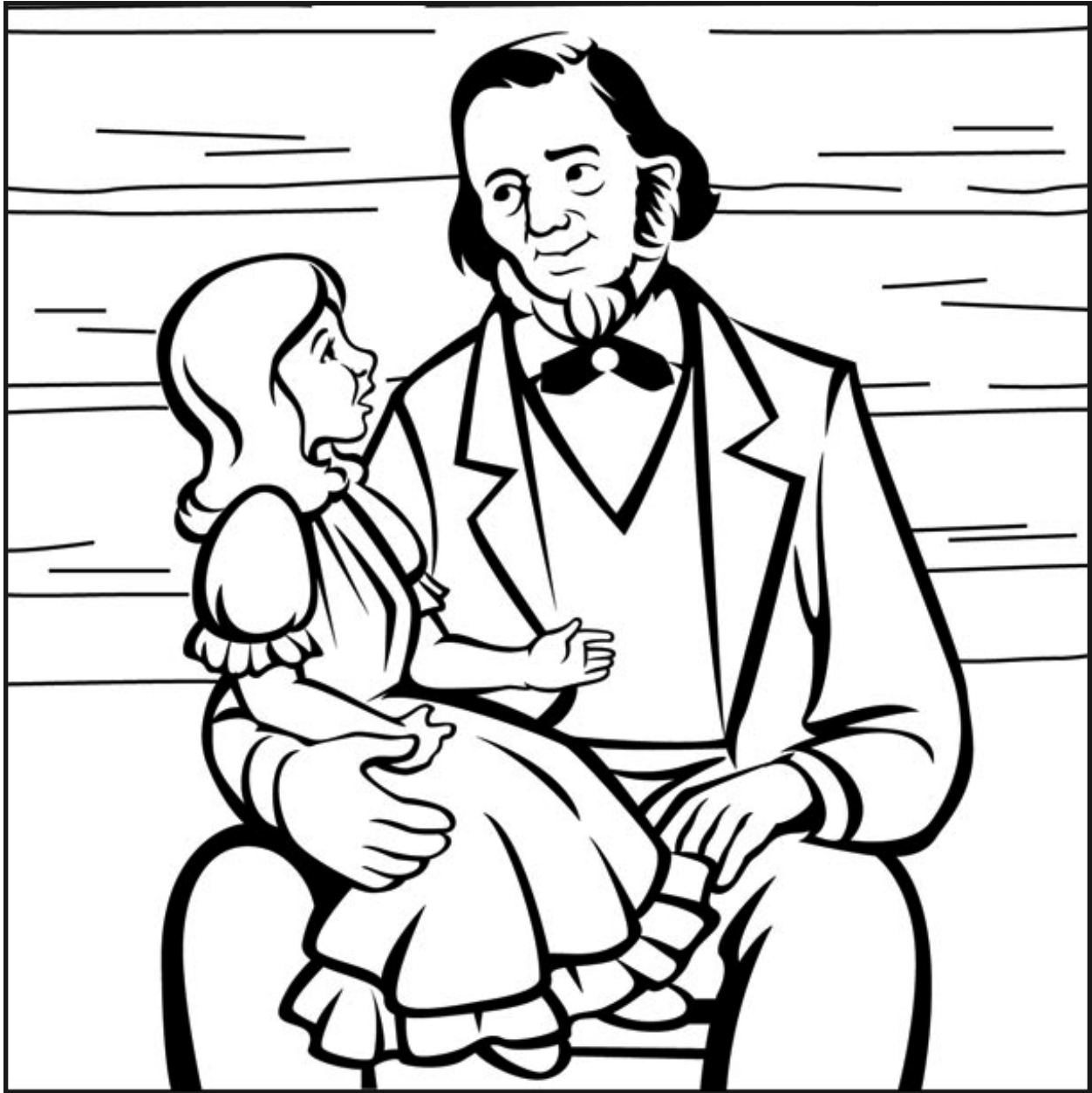


Sarah falling out of wagon

were full of snow. Father managed all these things in his stride, and we finally got to Three-Mile Creek and Mother Homer.

A Cozy Warm Bed

“If she was not happy to see him and the extra burdens he brought with him, she didn’t say so. She kissed each one of us, gave us a good warm supper, and put us to bed in a cozy warm bed. What a haven this was to us poor wayfarers who had been so long in the mud and rain!”



17. "Her Name Is Mother"

*The following story is told by Rachel Maretta Homer Crocket.
See pages 131-132 in the Homer Family History.*

"I was born at Three-Mile Creek, under real pioneer conditions, but I have no recollection of the home at Three-Mile Creek

until we returned there to live with mother Homer, after the death of my mother at Swan Lake.

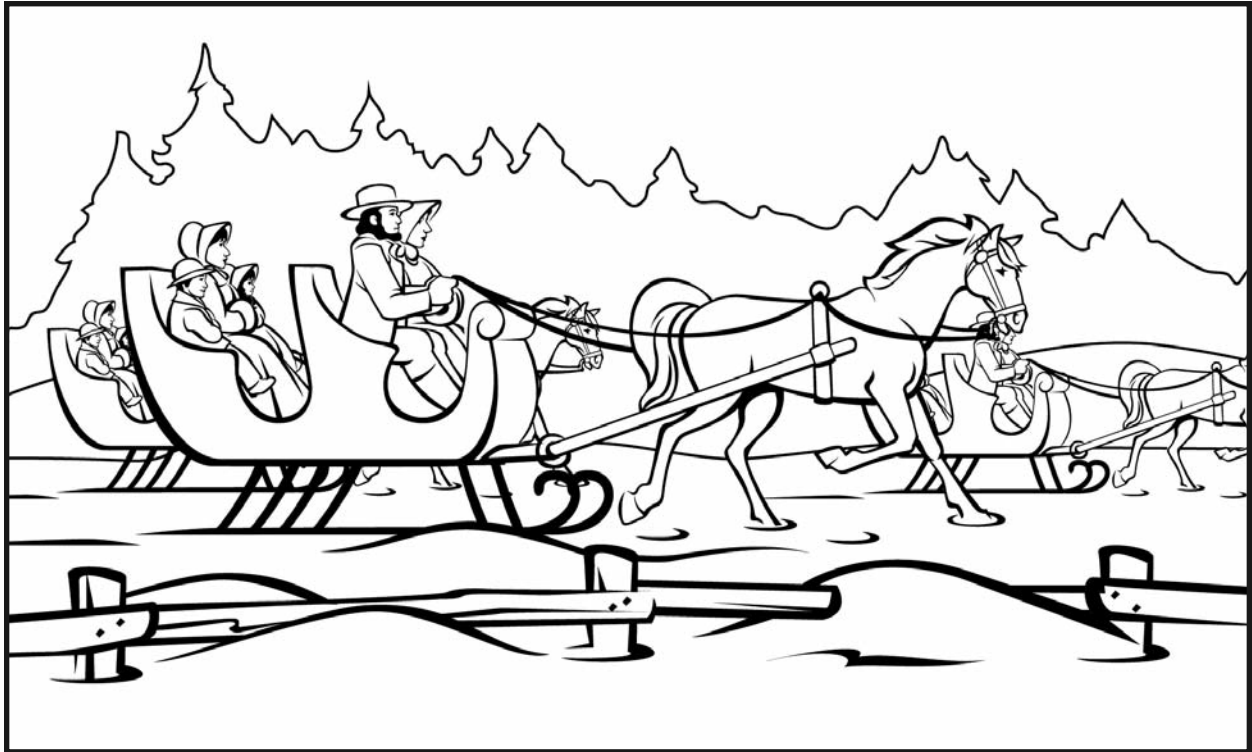
"I remember the evening of our arrival. We had been travelling for days in mud and rain. Everything was so damp and cold – we were chilled to the bone. Mother Homer had a bright, warm fire shining in her hearth and she was cooking supper.

"In fancy I can see her now as she moved about dishing up the good warm food. I sat on my father's knee in a cozy corner by the fire. I was just three at the time, and young as I was, my heart surely warmed toward her.

"I pulled father's ear down to my lips and whispered, 'What is her name?' In a broken tender voice, he whispered back, 'her name is mother.' Those magic words were music to my ears, especially as it proved as he said. She was indeed a real mother to us children, who badly needed a mother's care at that time.

"Mother Homer was not our natural mother, but we always called her so, and she was always a mother to us in every respect. She took this family of motherless children and treated them just like they were her own. They never could have told from any word or conduct of hers that they weren't exactly the same as her natural children.

"She truly was one of the noble ones of the earth. She was loved and honored as few people have been. She walked with dignity and grace the path of duty as she saw it."



18. A Sleigh Ride Rescue (in the Spring)

Russell decided to move all his family together on a farm near Clarkston, Utah

On a sunny day in the first week of April, 1875, Russell and his family loaded all of their goods into four wagons. The sun was shining when they left Three-Mile Creek, but by the time they got to Deweyville there was a blizzard blowing.

The family camped in the school house for two days, waiting for the weather to improve. Russell broiled slices of beef on the top of the box stove. He would lay a piece of meat on the stove, sear it, sprinkle it with salt and pepper, and turn it over to sear the other side, while the kids stood by with a slice of bread, anxiously

waiting to receive a piece of the meat.

A Party in the Schoolhouse

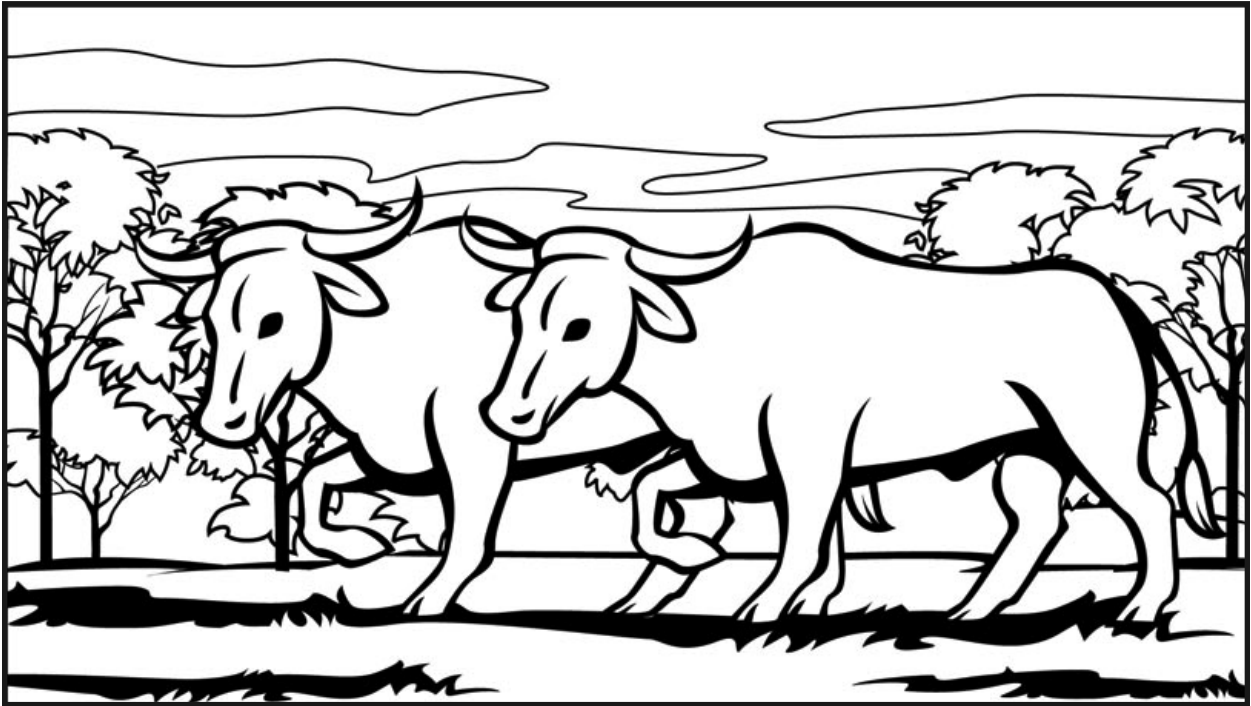
In the evening, the young people of the town came to the school and brought music. They danced and sang and had a grand time with the children and youth of the Homer family. [The children involved in the move to Clarkston were: Mary Ann 20, Russell Jr. 16, Marinda 14, Emily Jane 13, Joshua 12, Esther Jane 11, Sarah 9, Rebecca 7, Rachel Maretta 4 and David 2.]

On the third morning it was clear again, so the family continued on their journey. However, when they got to the Clarkston Divide the snow was so deep that the wagons would not roll. Every one had to walk except Eliza and baby David. Russell sent one of the men into town for help, and soon several sleighs came out to meet the family.

Gliding Over the Snow into Clarkston

Russell gathered up the family, loaded them into the sleighs, and they drove into town right over the top of the fences on the crusted snow.

One of the teams that came out to help was driven by Will Stokes, who was 16 yrs. old. At the top of the hill he met Esther Homer. That was the beginning a friendship that later developed into a romance, and they were married six years later in Salt Lake City.



19. Helping to Build the Church

Honest Tythe Payers

Russell and Eliza always enjoyed attending Church. They were honest and conscientious tithe payers and donated to every worthy cause.

Paying the Debt on the New Church

When a new meeting house in Clarkston was completed, Bishop Jardine came to visit the Homers. He told Russell that he was very much worried because Moses Thatcher had sent word that he was coming to dedicate the building the next Sunday. There was still \$200.00 due on it and the Bishop said that Russell was the

only one in town who could help him with such a large sum of money. Russell told the Bishop that he didn't have that much money handy, but he said, "There's that yoke of oxen out there. If you can use them, you are welcome." The \$200 was owed to the brick masons, and they were willing to take the oxen for payment – so the debt was paid and the dedication took place on time.

The Comforts of Home

The Homer family enjoyed all the comforts of a typical western farm home of the time with its cows and horses, chickens, and all the usual farm animals. They had a well from which they got their water. There was a well-stocked cellar with apples, potatoes, and vegetables for the fall and winter months, and the back kitchen with cured meats, hams, bacon, corned beef, mince meat, pickled pork, and lard; a barrel of salted cucumbers; a box of home-made tallow candles; a barrel of sauerkraut; and cookies and doughnuts.

The beds were entirely homemade. The quilts were pieced together out of strips of the best parts of worn-out clothing; the blankets were made of wool that was washed, corded, spun, and woven by hand, and the pillows were likewise homemade – using the feathers of wild game and chickens.

Rag rugs carpeted most of the floors. The soap was made out of grease scraps and lye taken from wood ashes. The butter, bread, and other foods were all homemade.



20. "Paddle Upstream or Drift Downstream"

About the year 1884, Russell was driving along in his buggy and unexpectedly drove into a deep ditch and was thrown out onto his head and shoulders. He suffered great shock and a concussion and fractured both shoulder blades. He never fully recovered from the effects of this accident. He lived on for six more years, but his health gradually declined. During the last winter of his life he arranged his business affairs, making provision for his two remaining wives, Eliza and Priannah, to live comfortably. He also provided

for his two children who were unable to care for themselves: daughter Mary and son David. His estate being so disposed of there was nothing to probate, so there was no trouble in the family concerning his property after his death – which may have contributed to the fact that the family always remained loving and united.

Remembering Life Experiences

At the close of his life he talked a great deal about his early life and experiences, and repeated conversations that he had with Church leaders.

The Day of His Death

On the day of his death he related a dream he had in his early life about being in a boat on the Missouri River with the Prophet Joseph Smith – floating downstream. The Prophet had said to him, “There is no standing still in Mormonism; if you don’t paddle upstream you will surely drift downstream.”

The effect of this dream had made a real impact on his life. He always felt as though he did not dare refuse to do anything he was called upon to do by the proper authority, and was extremely thankful that he had never done so.

On the 12th day of February, 1890, he passed peacefully away at his home in Clarkston.

21. Sacrificing All for the Gospel*

William Thornton, Father of Eliza Thornton

Love for Music

William Thornton was talented in music. He had an excellent singing voice and taught music lessons. He conducted the choir in the church at Drighlington [England], and played the lead violin and the bassoon in an orchestra. Besides his music, he delivering parcels with a horse and cart on certain days of the week.



In 1843 the family was visited by missionaries of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Some of the members were converted and joined the Church. They immediately felt a burning desire to emigrate to Utah and mingle with the Saints.

Great Changes in Their Lives

Soon after they became members of the Church, William was called on to help the missionaries by preaching and singing at street meetings in the city. They would sing hymns until a crowd

*This story is a compilation of a history written by William's grandson, John Thornton, and granddaughter, Rachel Mareta Homer Crockett (pages 106-115 in the *Homer Family History*).

gathered, and then begin preaching. Eliza was eight years old at the time. She also had a good singing voice, and proved to be quite an attraction during their street meetings.

The congregation in the Church of England, where William had been the choir director, tried to persuade him to change his mind about going to America. If he would promise to stay and continue his work with the choir, the church members proposed to raise the money to send William and his family to study music for two years on the continent. He refused the offer, and told them he would go to America as soon as he could raise sufficient money to take his family.

Parents Urged Him to Stay

William's parents were heartbroken, and promised to give him the family home in Moorend, and everything they possessed, if he would stay and raise his family there.

Friends and relatives forsook him. He soon lost his music students, and his job as a carter. He had to go to work in the coal pits, and members of his family worked at whatever they could to earn money. It took eleven years to raise enough money for the parents and seven children to travel to America.

Mary's parents also protested strenuously, but she too was thoroughly converted and would cheerfully go with her husband. It was a sad parting for all of them, for they knew that many of them would never meet again in this life.

When they were ready to leave, they decided it would be easier to get away quietly, without bidding their friends goodbye. In

the evening, Mary and the children walked three and one-half miles to Bradford, where they would catch the early morning train for Liverpool. Their oldest son Richard went along with Mary to carry the baby, although he was staying in England. William went by way of his parents home, to tell them goodbye.

When Mary and the children arrived at the station, about three o'clock in the morning, they were greatly surprised to find quite a number of their relatives and friends had come to see them off.

Overcome with Grief

William did not arrive until just before the train was ready to pull out. It had been very difficult telling his parents and grandparents goodbye, knowing he would not see them again. Then, when he saw his brothers and friends at the train station, he was so overcome by grief that he collapsed and could not speak. He finally got into a seat on the train and barely managed to wave his hand as the train pulled away. It took great willpower and determination to follow through with their plan.

Crossing the Ocean

The family went by train to Liverpool, and set sail 17 April 1855 on the ship named "William Stetson." Among their traveling companions were a group of saints and returning missionaries.

Several members of the family endured sickness on the voyage, but all got better except the baby, Sarah. She died while the ship was in quarantine in the New York Harbor.

Crossing the Plains

In 1860, William and his family were ready to cross the plains. Again, they had worked and saved to accumulate sufficient money for the trip. They traveled in the James D. Ross Company, and arrived in Salt Lake City on the 23rd of September. William's grandson, John, writes:

“ It was an ox team company, so it was a slow tedious way. They shared in all the hardships and pleasures of the trip. Never once, through all their trials and labors coming to America, and then to Utah, did they ever entertain any idea of returning to England. Grandfather always wished earnestly that he could return as a missionary to preach the Gospel to all of his relatives, and to bring them to the blessings of America. In his letters, from time to time, he advised his relatives to treat well the missionaries of the Church and to listen to their message.”

A Sealing for Eternity

On the 6th of May, 1865, William and Mary realized the great blessing they had hoped and prayed to have for many years. They were sealed together for Eternity in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City. Two years later, 10 March 1867, his dear wife, Mary, departed this life.

William enjoyed doing temple work during his later years. His grandson John said, “He left his family a rich heritage of faith in God and faithfulness in His service.”

22. Caring and Sharing

Mary Caroline Anderson – Third Wife

Childhood Injury

Mary suffered an accident when she was a child, causing an injury to her back, which resulted in her having somewhat delicate health the remainder of her life.

A Hungry Stranger at the Door

On the evening before Mary's oldest child was born, a young man knocked at their door and asked her for something to eat. It was long after supper time and, besides feeling very ill (in the early stages of labor) she didn't have any bread in the house. But she invited the man in, made a fire and cooked him some hotcakes. He seemed to enjoy them very much and told her that he had just arrived from a trip across the Plains and had walked the entire distance; he was out of money and had no friends.

Mary told Russell about his plight and he gave the man some chores to do – until he could rest up and find a job.

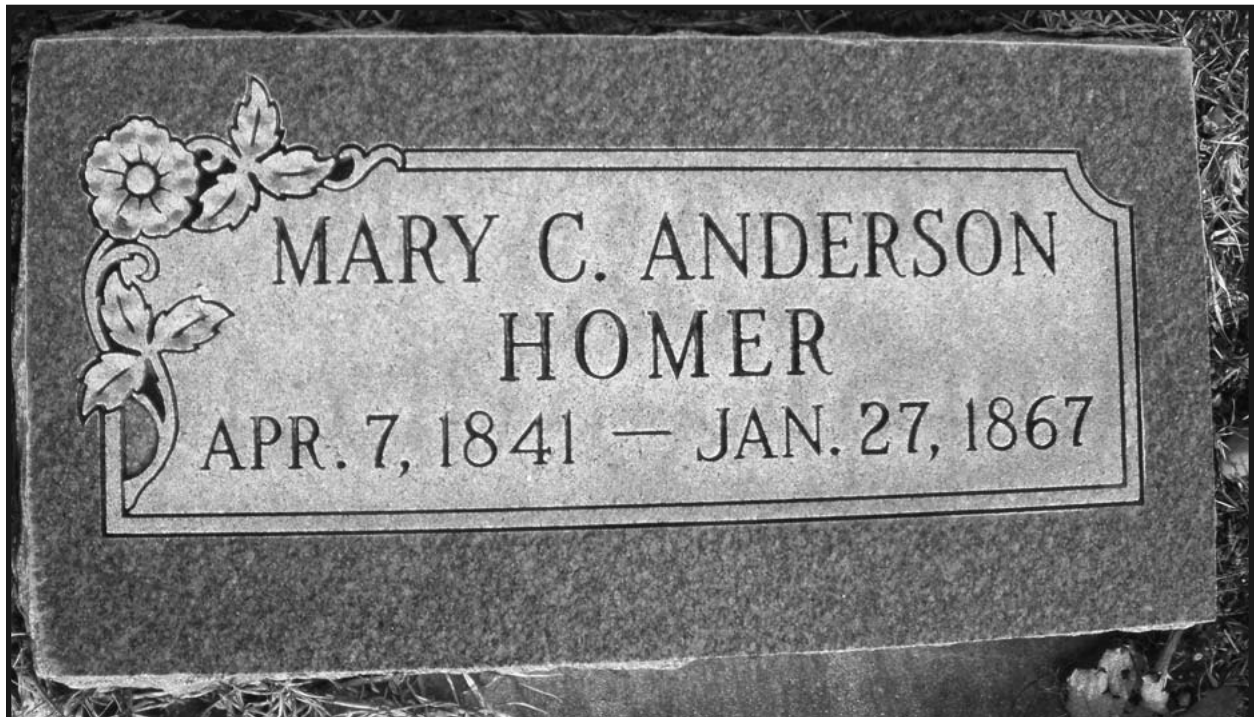
A Stonecutter

The man's name was Harry Brown; he was a stonecutter. In later years Russell commissioned two headstones from Harry

Brown, for his two wives who had died (Mary died in 1867 at the age of 26. Eliza Thornton died in 1873 at the age of 31).

Remembering Mary's Kindness

When the stones were delivered, Mary's headstone had some extra fancy trimming worked on it that made it a little nicer than Eliza's. When Russell asked him about it, Mr. Brown replied that it was just to repay, in part, for the pancakes Mary gave him the night of his arrival in Utah. He explained that it was the first real food he had tasted for several days, and nothing had ever tasted so good to him before or since.



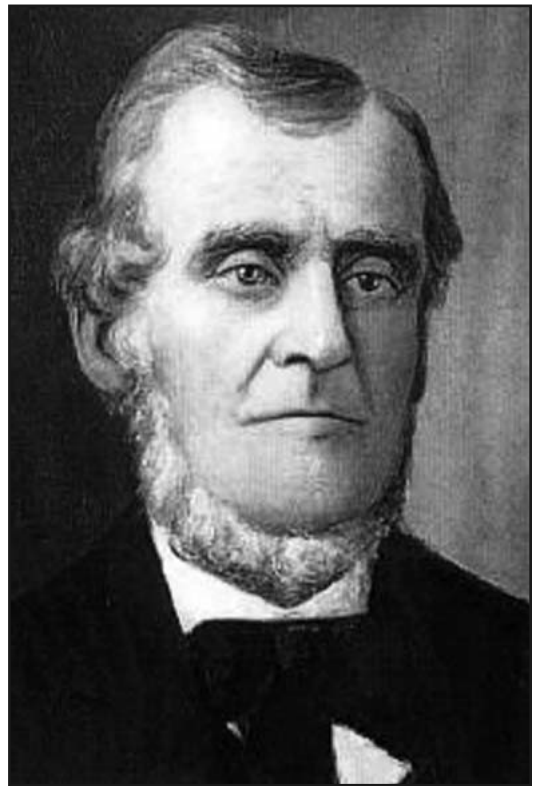
This headstone was created by Harry Brown for Russell King Homer. The extra flower design was added by the stonecutter in appreciation for Mary's kindness to him when he first arrived in Utah.

23. The Passing of Martin Harris

The following story is written by William Harrison Homer

“Early in July, 1875, five years after he [Martin Harris] had come to Utah, Martin Harris was stricken with a kind of paralysis. It was the venerable witness’s last illness, but through it all he remained true to his faith. At that time I and my small family lived in Clarkston. With other members of the Clarkston Ward, I called at the Harris home to relieve them in the care of the old man.

“We began to think that he had borne his last testimony. The last audible words he had spoken were something about *The Book of Mormon*, but we could not understand what they were; however, these were not the aged witness’s last words.



Final Testimony

“The next day, July 10, 1875, marked the end. It was in the evening. It was milking time, and Martin Harris, Jr., and his wife, Nancy Homer Harris, had gone out to milk and to do the evening chores. In the house with the stricken man were left my mother,

Eliza Williamson Homer, and myself, who had so interesting a day with Martin Harris at Kirtland. I stood by the bedside holding the patient's right hand, and my mother stood at the foot of the bed. Martin Harris had been unconscious for a number of days. When we first entered the room the old gentleman appeared to be sleeping. He soon woke up and asked for a drink of water. I put my arm under the old gentleman, raised him, and my mother held the glass to his lips. He drank freely, and then he looked up at me and recognized me.

"I did see the Plates'

"He said, 'I know you. You are my friend.' He said, 'Yes, I did see the plates on which *The Book of Mormon* was written; I did see the Angel; I did hear the voice of God; and I do know that Joseph Smith is a Prophet of God, holding the keys to the Holy Priesthood.'

"This was the end. Martin Harris, divinely-chosen witness of the work of God, relaxed, gave up my hand; he lay back on his pillow, and just as the sun went down behind the Clarkston mountains the soul of Martin Harris passed on.

"When Martin Harris, Jr., and his wife returned to the house they found that their father had passed away; but in the passing, Martin Harris, favored of God, repeated an irrefutable testimony of the divine inspiration and the prophetic genius of the great Prophet, Joseph Smith."

(signed) *William Harrison Homer*

Signed in the presence of Mrs. W. H. Homer, Joseph Homer, Leah Widtsoe, and John A. Widtsoe.

24. Throwing Tea Overboard*

Capt. Edmund Sears – Great Grandfather

Boston Tea Party

Captain Sears had just returned from a long voyage, and was unloading his ship, when he noticed a huge commotion at the other end of the harbor. He soon discovered that colonists, disguised as Indians, were throwing chests of tea into the ocean. They were protesting the oppressive taxes of the British Government – with no representation in the British Parliament. Edmund was sympathetic to their cause, and joined in throwing the tea overboard.

Throwing Tea in the Garden

Upon his return to his home at Cape Cod, though he had been gone from home for a long time, as he entered the house he went straight to the cupboard and, without saying a word to anyone, seized the teapot and tea caddy and threw them into the garden with a crash.

His astonished wife whispered to the children, "your poor father has come home crazy."

No More British Tea or Clothing

He then proclaimed that from that time forward none of his family were to drink tea, or wear upon their persons any articles of British manufacture.

Revolutionary Army

Later, his four sons were in the Revolutionary Army, but nevertheless, when a landing was threatened on the Cape, he mounted his horse and galloped to the spot to offer his services.

Captain Edmund Sears is a great grandfather of Russell King Homer. Edmund was born 6 Aug 1712 in Yarmouth, Massachusetts. He died 12 Oct 1796 in Dennis, Massachusetts.

Edmund married Hannah Crowell (1725-1802), daughter of Christopher Crowell and Sarah Matthews, on 7 Apr 1743 in Yarmouth, Massachusetts. They had ten children. The second child, Elizabeth (1745-1819), married Thomas Homer (1736-1802).

Tombstone of Edmund Sears

Ancient Sears cemetery, W. Brewster, Barnstable, Massachusetts
<http://www.capecodgravestones.com/brewsterpixweb/esears96brs.html>

Edmund Sears 1796



**In Memory of Mr
Edmund Sears he died
Aug'st ye 12th 1796
In his 85th year**

**Remember me as you pass by
For as you are so once was I
And as I am now so you must be
Therefore prepare to follow me**

This story can be found in: *The Descendants of Richard Sares (Sears) of Yarmouth, Mass., 1638-1888*, Samuel Pearce May, pages 88-89, Joel Munsell's Sons, Albany, 1890.
See also <http://www.searsr.com/richard1/pafg07.htm>



The Mayflower in Plymouth Harbor by Halsall, http://www.pilgrimhallmuseum.org/ap_landing_in_america.htm

Mayflower Ancestral Line of Russell King Homer

The following information was submitted by Mr. William Evan Homer of San Jose, California.
It was approved by the Society of Mayflower Descendants, 11 October 1988.

William Brewster (1566-1644) – passenger on the Mayflower, which landed at Plymouth, New England, December 1620

md. Mary Wentworth (1569-1527)

3rd child: **Patience Brewster** (1600-1634) (arrived in ship Anne)

md. Thomas Prence (1600-1673)

4th child: **Mercy Prence** (1631-1711)

md John Freeman (1626/27) son of

3rd child: **Thomas Freeman** (1653-1715/16)

md. Rebecca Sparrow (1665-1740) dau of Capt. Jonathan and Rebecca (Bangs) Sparrow

2nd Child: **Mercy Freeman** (1674-1747)

md. Paul Sears (1669-1739/40)

5th Child: **Edmund Sears** (1712-1795)

md. Hannah Crowell (1725-1802)

1st Child: **Elizabeth Sears** (1745-1819)

md. Thomas Homer (1735-1812)

5th Child: **Benjamin Cobb Homer** (1777-1852)

md. Anna Warner (1780-1864/65)

6th Child: **Russell King Homer** (1815-1819)

Russell King Homer

b. 15 July 1815, Spafford, Onondaga, New York
d. 12 February 1890, Clarkston, Cache, Utah

md. Eliza Williamson

b. 15 December 1815
Spafford, Onondaga, New York
m. 20 December 1836
d. 11 June 1912
Blackfoot, Bingham, Idaho

Children:

- 1. Elizabeth Williamson Homer**
(died 1 month old)
- 2. Edmund Homer**
md. Susan Eveline Greene
1. Susan Eliza Homer
2. Benjamin King Homer
3. Edmund Flavius Homer
4. Artie Malbourn Homer
5. Mary Melissa Homer
6. Louisa Eveline Homer
7. Anna May Homer
md. Melissa J. Greene
1. Admanzah Greene Homer
2. John Williamson Homer
3. Willard George Homer
4. Nancy Greene Homer
5. Louisa Lulu Homer
6. Rhoda Greene Homer
- 3. Nancy Ann Homer**
md. Martin Harris Jr.
1. Martin Homer Harris
2. Nancy Ann Harris
3. Benjamin Harris
4. Franklin Walter Harris
5. Russell King Harris
6. Sariah Harris
7. Rosetta Harris
8. Ella Eliza Harris
- 4. Anna Eliza Homer**
md. Willis Lemmon
1. Anna Eliza Lemmon
2. Willis Lemmon, Jr.
3. Julia Caroline Lemmon
4. Nancy Matilda Lemmon
5. Eva Alvira Lemmon
6. Alice Lemmon
7. John Lee Lemmon
8. Rosette Lemmon
9. Nellie May Lemmon
10. Hyrum Homer Lemmon
- 5. William Harrison Homer**
md. Susannah Rebecca Raymond
1. Eliza Raymond Homer
2. Susannah Raymond Homer
3. Hattie Raymond Homer
4. Nancy Raymond Homer
5. William Harrison Homer, Jr.
6. Rosetta Rebekah Homer
7. Ida May Homer
8. Roy Fisher Homer
9. Russell King Homer
10. Frankie Mell Homer
11. Edith Euline Homer
12. Alonzo Earl Homer
13. Joseph Homer
14. Mary Homer
15. Ruth Homer
- 6. Lovisa Matilda Homer**
md. Hyrum Palmer Rider
1. David Homer Rider
md. Charles Thornton
1. Lovisa Matilda Thornton
2. Charles Thornton, Jr.
3. Russell King Thornton
4. William Richard Thornton
5. Nancy Thornton
6. Edgar Thornton
7. John E. Thornton
8. Mary Eliza Thornton
- 7. Julia Caroline Homer**
(died 6 years old)
- 8. Benjamin John Homer**
md. Mary Adelia Petty
1. William Harrison Homer
2. Benjamin Petty Homer
3. John Albert Homer
4. Mary Adelia Homer
5. Nellie Maud Homer
6. Russell King Homer
7. Eleanor E. Homer
8. Frank Homer
9. Robert Earl Homer
10. James Edgar Homer
11. Rosetta Homer
12. Joseph Petty Homer
- 9. Mary Ann Homer**
md. Alfred Boram
- 10. Rosetta Catherine Homer**
md. George Dubois Lutz
1. George Albert Lutz
2. Rosetta Katherine Lutz
3. Myrtle Lutz
- 11. Russell King Homer II**
md. Eleanor Maria Atkinson
1. Russell King Homer III
2. Alfred Raymond Homer
3. George Albert Homer
4. Brigham Ezra Homer
5. Elnorah Ann Homer
6. William Harrison Homer
7. Edmund Earl Homer
8. John Mayhew Homer
9. Eliza Loreen Homer
md. Lavina Myler
md. Margaret Burbidge
md. Christina Rasmussen

md. Eliza Thornton

b. 8 Jan 1842
Drighlington, Yorkshire, Eng.
m. 29 March 1860
d. 28 Feb. 1873
Swan Lake, Franklin, Idaho

Children:

- 1. Marinda Thornton Homer**
md. John Beveridge Jardine
1. John Purl Jardine
2. Russell King Jardine
3. Eliza Lily Jardine
4. Irene Marinda Jardine
5. Leo Joshua Jardine
6. William Homer Jardine
7. James Elmer Jardine
- 2. Joshua Thornton Homer**
md. Olena Jensen
1. Nels Russell Homer
2. Joshua Wendell Homer
3. Donald Jensen Homer
4. Leland Vernal Homer
5. Ella Eliza Homer
6. Melvin Wilford Homer
7. Edmund Z. Homer
- 3. Sarah Homer**
md. John Peter Clark (or Clarke)
1. John Roland Clark
2. David James Clark
3. Addie Elnora Clark
4. Michael Homer Clark
5. Lester Lavern Clark
6. Jennie Alene Clark
7. Susanna Manila Clark
8. Sarah Eliza Clark
9. Clarence Peter Clark
10. Ilda Marinda Clark
11. Maynard Ward Clark
- 4. Rebecca Homer**
md. Richard Joseph Costley
1. Richard Grant Costley
2. Margaret Kathleen Costley
3. Nancy Blanche Costley
4. Ward Homer Costley
5. Gladys Lucille Costley
- 5. Rachel Maretta Homer**
md. William Jones
1. William Homer Jones
2. Willis Noble Jones
md. John Allen Crockett
1. Genevieve Crockett
2. Ida Laurene Crockett
3. John Allen Crockett
4. Russell King Crockett
5. Frank Crockett
6. Maretta Isabelle Crockett
7. David Leonard Crockett
- 6. David Leonard Homer**
(unmarried)

md. Mary Caroline Anderson

b. 7 April 1841
Oster, Kippinge, Maribo, Denmark
m. 24 Nov. 1860
d. 27 Jan 1867
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah

Children:

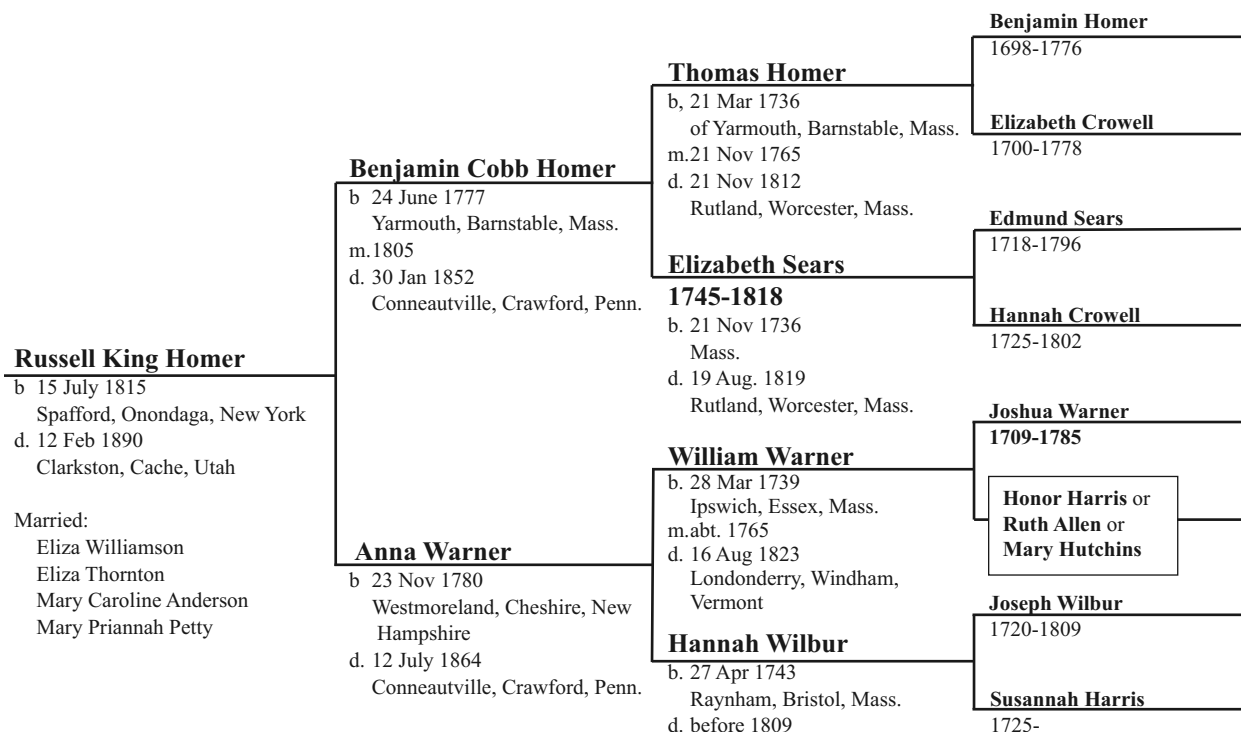
- 1. Emily Jane Homer**
md. Richard Hamilton Jardine
1. Mary Homer Jardine
2. John Homer Jardine
3. Agnes Eliza Jardine
4. Richard Hamilton Jardine, Jr.
md. Lars Larsen
1. Emily Rose Larsen
2. Vaunda Larsen
- 2. Delania Homer**
md. William F. Cooper
1. William Wyley Cooper
2. Mary Delania Cooper
3. Homer Dwight Cooper
4. Oscar Fontaine Cooper
- 3. Esther Homer**
md. William Hale Stokes
1. Esther (Bessie) Stokes
2. Mary Caroline Stokes
3. William Hale Stokes, Jr.
4. Henry Stokes
5. Russell King Stokes
6. Alice Stokes
7. George W. Stokes
8. John Edward Stokes
9. Clara Alice Stokes

md. Mary Priannah Petty

b. 3 June 1833
Nashville, Davidson, Tennessee
m. 23 Nov 1867
d. 26 Mar 1901
Plano, Madison, Idaho

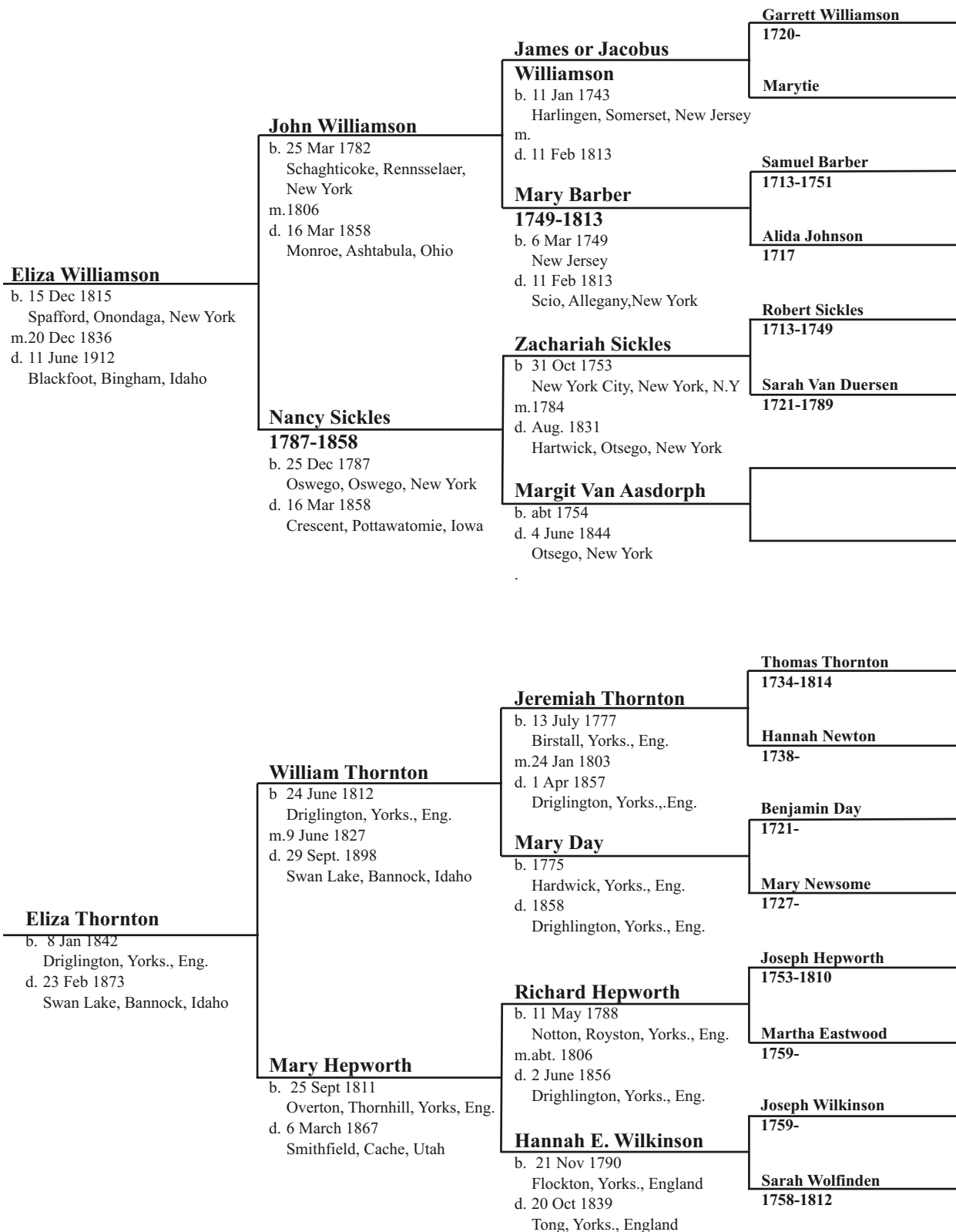
Children:

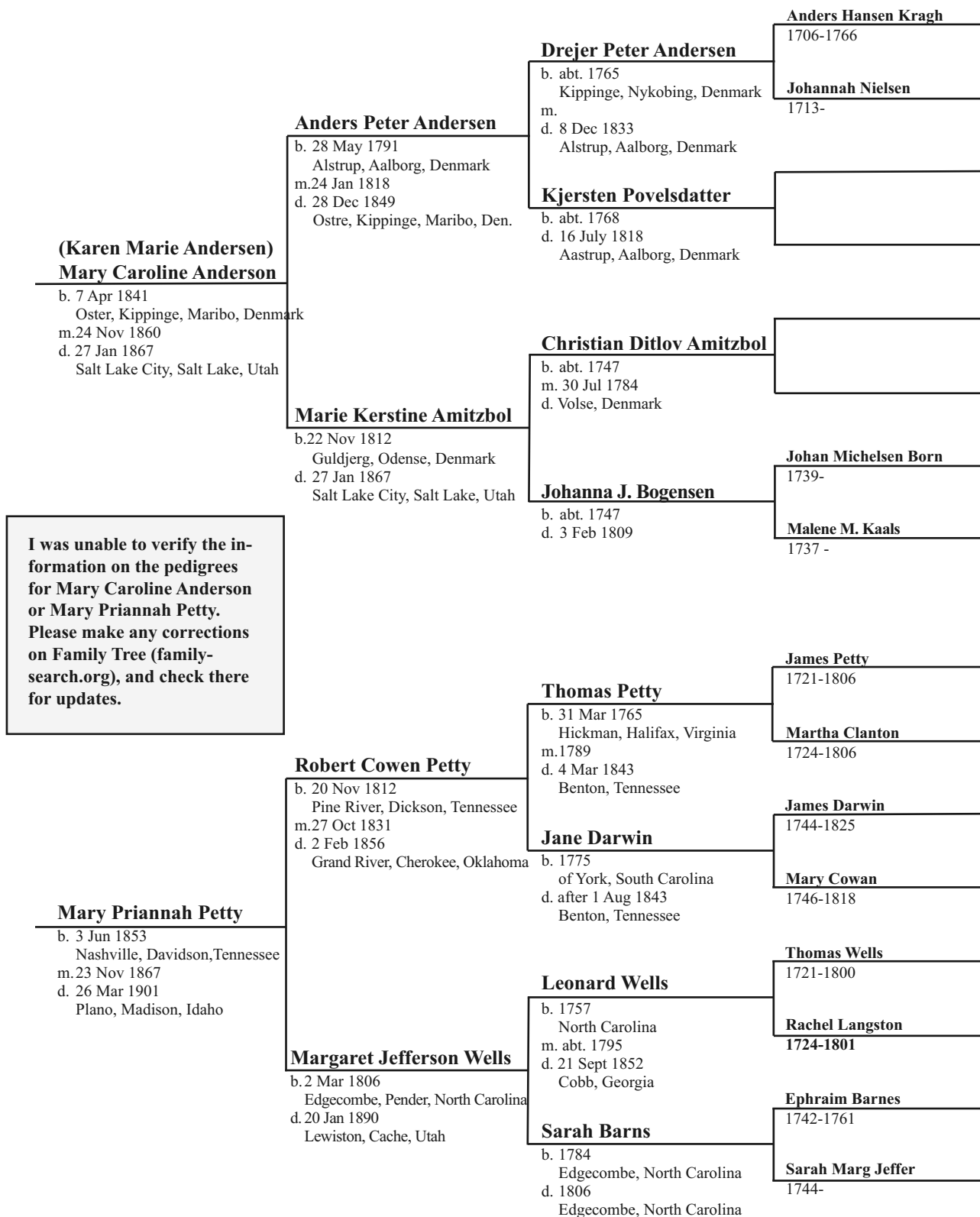
- 1. Delight Homer** (died 1 1/2 yrs. old)
- 2. Parley Pratt Homer**
md. Henrietta Van Orden
1. Juanita Homer
2. Lulu Homer (Lapham)
md. Alice Homer
- 3. Louisa Homer**
md. Ephraim Peterson
1. Ephraim Lawrence Peterson
2. (adopted daughter died as infant)
3. (adopted) Alice Eugenia Peterson
- 4. George Homer** (died 1 day old)



The Warner line needs additional research to establish the mother of William Warner. (1) The Warner Family Temple Record Book, in possession of the Russell King Homer Family Association, gives Honor Harris as the mother of William Warner. Her temple baptism work was done in 1878, before the death of Russell King Homer. However, (2) a list of names on a paper considered to be in the handwriting of Russell King Homer seems to list Ruth Allen as the wife of Joshua Warner (although the relationship is not stated). (3) There are several men by the name of William Warner in the region where the family lived, and more research will be needed to determine which William Warner, and which Joshua Warner, are ancestors of Russell King Homer.

If you have additional information, please communicate through "discussions" on Family Tree (familysearch.org) for the individual ancestor.





I was unable to verify the information on the pedigrees for Mary Caroline Anderson or Mary Priannah Petty. Please make any corrections on Family Tree (family-search.org), and check there for updates.

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