

ABRAHAM WHITNEY PALMER

Abraham Palmer was born Dec. 4, 1807 in Sherburne, New York, to Noah and Tirzah Whitney Palmer. He was Baptized a member of the L.D.S. Church when he was 28 years old. He married in 1825 to Patience Delila Pierce. He was a body guard for the Prophet Joseph Smith for ten years. This is one happening he told about.

Abraham and his wife had gone to visit with Joseph and Emma Smith, not finding the Prophet at home. While visiting with Emma the door opened and a black feathered arm came in. The man outside asked for a blanket. Emma Smith seeing that it was Joseph, fainted. Abraham Palmer went with the Prophet to help get the tar and feathers off. Grandmother Palmer stayed to help comfort Emma. There were soon others who came to assist.

One time while doing baptisms for the dead in the Temple, Brother Abraham Palmer became uneasy. He said he wasn't tho completely convinced of Baptisms for the Dead, and shortly afterwards he fell to the floor. The Prophet Joseph Smith told the men to lay him on the bench and let him be. After laying there for awhile he recovered. The Prophet asked him where he had been and what did you see, Being a man of few words, he said, "I believe Baptism for the Dead is right, now."

In Feb. 1857 Abraham Palmer married Hulda Catherine Hill. They had four girls and two boys. Their first child was born Dec 26, 1858, a girl names Delila Viakate Palmer. She was the first Whitechild born in Ogden, Utah. She was born in a log cabin where the Union Pacific Depot now stands.

The Palmers lived in Mona and Levan. In 1870 Abraham Palmer Came to Fayette, Utah to teach school. The school was a one room log cabin, with split logs for the benches and the children used slates. In the fall of 1870 his wife Hulda Catherine and

children joined him. She taught school also with her husband for many years. The pay they recieved was produce of many kinds, this was used to support their families. They were the first school teachers that Fayette had.

His first wife and family also lived in Fayette, as there was built a large adobe house at the north end of Fayette, which had the name of "Palmer House" on it. Grandmother Delila, as everyone called her in Fayette, went to work there for an older brother and wife when she was eight or nine. She helped with the cooking and dishes. It was at this place the stage Coach and Pony Express stopped and cared for the horses and something to eat for themselves. Deleila's folks lived in a log house across the street. That Palmer House has been remolded and is still in good living condition.

The two families lived and raised their families together. They called the one wife mother and the other mama.

Abraham Palmer died and was buried on the Mellor plot in the Fayette Cemetary in May 1875, His first wife, Patience Delila is buried at his side. She dided in 1894.

His second wife, Hulda Catherine, diedd in Canada during the flu epedemic. Her one daughter also dieded of the flu anout this time. They were taking the caskets in a wagon to the Cemetary, when the Police stopped them. They opened the caskets to make sure it wasn't liquor in them instead of bodies. They died in 1918 in Sterling Alberta, Canada. They are buried in Raymond, Alberta , Canada.

Abraham Whitney Palmer has many progenitors in Utah and Canada.

Incidents that Grandmother Delila Palmer Mellor told me about her life and her father.

William Charles Mellor had been courting Delila Vilate Palmer. July 20 1873 William Charles had been working in the fields, when he came in he drank ice water. He suddenly became very ill, so he sent a messenger to Delila saying if she wanted to marry him to come right away. She was then 15 years old. Her father, Abraham, went with her. She found her sweetheart lying on a bed of straw in a room of his parents house. She knelt down by his side and her father married them. It was later solomized in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City.

One day one of the younger boys went down in the pasture to catch a horse. When he didn't return they went to find him. They found him in the pasture, he had been kicked by the horse in the head, almost scalping him. He was brought to the house and laided on a bed. His father, Abraham, asked all that didn't believe the boy could be healed to leave the room, as many people had gathered at the home. They all left except his Mother Delila. Father then cleaned the wound and poured Olive oil in it; then pulled the skin back in place over the head. Abraham then gave his son a blessing.

I saw the man when he was in his 70's and the first thing I looked for was a scar on his head, but there wasn't any. Brother Abraham was a man of Faith and loved the Church.

Grandmother Delila said her Father was a very strict man, but also very kind. If they didn't have bread prepared on saturday for sunday, he told them they either had to mix it with their feet or go hungry until monday. They most always saw to it that the food was prepared on saturday for sunday.

My husband Warren Rex Mellor said he loved to sit on his grandfather's Abraham, lap and here him tell storied about the

Gospel.. My oldest son, especially favors his great-grandfather in looks. I feel it a great honor to be married into a family with such a great heritage.

Written by Rachel Petersen Mellor, a daughter-in-law of Delila Vilate Palmer Mellor.