

# CLARK NEWS

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## THE 1955 RE\*UNION:

The family reunion held this year at Lagoon drew more favorable comments from those attending than any held previously, or at least that was the impression gained by talking with random members of the family.

It was by all odds the easiest and the most carefree of all that have been held. No one was obliged to spend hours getting ready for it and more hours cleaning up after it. Everyone brought his own lunch, he ate what he wanted, in whatever quantities he wanted, and he took his own mess home with him, or at least he didn't bother anyone else with it.

Another impressive feature of the 1955 Re-union was the lack, or rather the absence of self consciousness and shyness. "Everyone seemed to be perfectly at home, doing what came naturally, yet all interested in the whole group. This, of course, would be due partially to the fact that other re-unions have been held previously and we have gotten acquainted with each other there. It was largely due, however, to the fact that it was strictly informal, strictly unhampered by any rigid program. On the whole I think the family liked it very much and the next Re-union promises to be the biggest and best of all.

Group pictures were taken by families. All the descendants of John William Clark taken in one group, all the descendants of Mary Ann Anderson in another, etc. Our family photographer, James Allen Parkinson took pictures of each group and he sent me prints of them and they are very good. I also took pictures of the groups at the same time and mine turned out very well also. Brother Parkinson is having his pictures made up into one composite picture which will be very interesting for all of us. He did not say in his letter what copies would cost but you can get in touch with him and he'll see that your orders are filled. If you want copies of the ones I took, they will cost you 5¢ each on account of that's what they cost me. I have one of each of the groups, and one of the four living grandchildren. I also have one of Harold Matthews conducting the meeting. I have seven pictures altogether. My address for pictures, Bernard Price, 361 G Street, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

I thought the highlight of the affair was the presence of the four living grandchildren of Thomas Clark and Charlotte Gayley. My kids thought it was a song about a halibut on the poooooooooopdeck. You may have thought it was something else, but whatever you thought, get ready now for a better one next year.



NEWS FROM THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY:

Christening of children of JOSEPH & SUSANNA PLAIN, Bishop's frome.

1779 24 Jan Sarah d.o. Joseph & Susannah Plain was bapt.

1795 15 July Sarah d.o. John & Mary Plain was bapt.

No entry for the marriage of Joseph and Sussana Plain was found, only the following: John Plain and Ann Wall, dated 6th March 1764 and again Edward Allen and Susannah Plain dated 10th October 1796, and Thomas Clarke and Sarah Plain dated 23rd April 1798.

Christenings and burials of CLARK at Bodenham, especially for the children of THOMAS PROBERT CLARK AND REBECCA the following found:

1700 Sept 15 Thomas s.o. Thomas Probert Clark & Rebecca his wife. bapt.

Dec 30 John s.o. John and Mary Clark bapt.

1771 June 15 Sarah Clark buried.

1772 Feb 25 Frances d.o. Thomas Probert Clark & Rebecca his wife, bapt.

Apr 24 Elizabeth d.o. Edward and Elizabeth Clark bapt.

Aug 9 Ann d.o. John & Mary Clark, bapt.

Sept 3, Mary Clark buried.

Sept 13, John Clark buried.

1773 Aug 15 John s.o. Edward and Elizabeth Clark bapt.

Nov 29 Ann d.o. John and Mary Clark bapt.

Nov 30 Rebecca d.o. Thomas Probert Clark & Rebecca, bapt.

March 31, Ann Clark, an infant, buried.

1775 March 19, Ann d.o. Edward and Elizabeth Clark bapt.

1777 Jan 15 Sarah d.o. Edward and Elizabeth Clark bapt.

Feb 5th, Thomas s.o. Thomas Probert Clark & Elizabeth, bapt.

Feb 9, James s.o. Henry & Susan Clark bapt.

1779 Sept 23 James s.o. Edward & Elizabeth Clark bapt.

Nov 30 Thomas, s.o. Henry and Susanna Clark Bapt.

1781 July 15 Ann d.o. Edward & Elizabeth Clark bapt.

Oct 20 Henry s.o. Henry & Susanna Clark bapt

1783 May 4th Mary d.o. Edward & Elizabeth Clark Bapt.

1785 Nov 21 Thomas Clark Buried.

1787 July 5th John s.o. Henry & Susanna Clark bapt.

1789 July 7th Henry Clarke buried.

1792 July 30th John Clarke buried.

1797 Sept 3, Elizabeth Clarke buried.

1800 Feb 9th Ann d.o. and base child of Mary Clark by Jno Parks bapt.

1801 Jan 3rd Mary Clark was buried.

Oct 26, Ann Clark (a child) was buried.

1802 Feb 28 William Clark was buried.

1804 Oct 31 Elizabeth Clark was buried.

1806 Aug 31st John the base son of Mary Harriot Clark, bapt.

Oct 25 Sarah d.o. John & Elizabeth Clark bapt.

Nov 1st John Clark a child was buried.

1809 Aug 8th John s.o. John & Elizabeth Clark bapt.

1810 July 30th Mary d.o. John & Elizabeth Clark bapt.

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The above information was sent to me the other day as a copy of a report received by them from the researcher in England. You can see that some connected material is coming out of the confusion and it is an indication that some where near is a storehouse of knowledge that will enable us to break through this wall and find the names of great numbers of our ancestors. How soon it will be, no one knows, but I venture to say that it will take more money to get it than we have on hand. That may seem mercenary, but I believe we must all put a little cash into the research fund regularly if we keep ahead of our needs.



## BIOGRAPHY OF THOS. H. CLARK.

(NOTE: Previous biographies of Thomas H. Clark have been published in the Clark News. This one, provided me by James Allen Parkinson, is a clipping from a newspaper and is published here for the benefit of those who may not have read earlier versions and also because it does introduce some material not included in those versions.)

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Thomas Henry Clark, the subject of this sketch, was the son of Thomas Clark. He was born on the seventh of May in 1805, at Acton, Herefordshire, England.

As a young man he was an athlete and boxer of no mean ability. As he grew older he joined a religious sect known as the Wesleyan Methodist, and became a minister of that church. About 1825 he married Charlotte Gailey, daughter of William Gailey, who was born January 27, 1803. The young couple made their home at Bishop Frome Herefordshire, England, where two sons and five daughters were born to them.

Mr. Clark traveled through his neighborhood preaching the Methodist religion until 1840, when he, with many others, becoming dissatisfied with the Methodists, organized and called themselves, the United Brethren. There were six hundred members and forty-five preachers.

In January of 1840 Wilford Woodruff arrived in England as a missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and on March 1st, received an intuition or presentment to go to the southern part of England, where he would find many souls awaiting his message. Therefore on March 4th, he found himself at Hill Farm in Herefordshire, and on March 5th he began holding meetings. At the end of thirty days he had baptized the entire six hundred, including the forty five preachers. Mr. Clark and his wife were among this number. From that time on Mr. Clark became traveling elder for the Latter-Day Saint's Church.

On April 6th, 1841, the family left their native land and emigrated to America, crossing the ocean on the ship Catherine. After landing they went directly to the City of Nauvoo, where they arrived July 8th of that year. Here Clark and his son John W. found employment working on the building known as the Nauvoo Mansion. Their home was a blacksmith shop without either doors or windows. For their work they took for pay such produce as they could obtain, but in such small quantities that the family were unable to have more than one kind of food each day. To illustrate: one day they would have cornmeal, another day squash, and another, meat, etc. They passed through all the trying times and incidents of those days. Two daughters died here, and two others were born.

At the time of the exodus from Nauvoo a posse of men came to the Clark home and gave them sixteen hours to leave the State, under penalty of the Father being given thirty lashes by each man with a hickory switch. The family were forced to go, taking with them the few possessions they could collect in so short a time. A Gentile friend allowed them to remain in his cornfield for the night, and helped them across the Mississippi River, where they joined the Saints at winter quarters.

In the spring of 1846, Mr. Clark was sent as a missionary to Missouri, where he remained until 1847, he then filled a mission to England, remaining until the fall of 1849. On Sunday, September 2nd, the ship James Pennel, with two hundred thirty six Saints under the direction of Thomas H. Clark, sailed from Liverpool, England, for America. They landed at New Orleans, October 22nd. Leaving New Orleans, he joined his family at Florence, Neb. where he remained



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until the spring of 1852.

Then he with his family began their journey across the plains. Mr. Clark being the Captain of the Company. The cholera broke out among the company of travelers and a large number of them died. Elder Clark was stricken with the dreaded disease, but being a man of great faith he was restored to health. On October 10th, 1852, they arrived in Salt Lake City. From there he came direct to Grantsville, which continued to be the family home.

The following year he was ordained the first Bishop of the Grantsville Ward, with Timothy Parkinson and James B. Walker as his counsellors, and served the people many years in that capacity. He followed the occupation of farming and stockraising, and always worked for the uplift and advancement of the community. He entered and patented the land where now stand the High School, the District School and the Opera House. He was a very devout man in his church duties. He passed through many hardships and incidents pertaining to pioneer life, having at that time but little to subsist on.

The family consisted of nine children as follows: John W, Eleanor, Eliza, Hannah, Ann, Thomas H, Sarah, Mary Ann, and Charlotte.

His posterity is numerous, numbering about five hundred, who are scattered throughout the states of Utah, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, California, Massachusetts and the Dominion of Canada. The subject of this sketch died at Grantsville October 14th, 1873, his wife having preceeded him April 18th, 1869.

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#### A REQUEST TO ALL FAMILY MEMBERS:

It was presented and approved by the family that volume one of a Clark Family history be compiled and printed. This volume is planned to be largely the history of Thomas Henry Clark and his Wife Charlotte and their children. Grandchildren and later descendants will take up later volumes.

To accomplish this purpose we need a great deal of information. We have almost nothing on the Nauvoo period of the family. We have too little of the period from Nauvoo to Utah. We know very little, for that matter, of the family in its English period.

Some of you, somewhere have information concerning those periods. Some of you have pictures, incidents, stories, events, or other information that we must have to make a complete and a worthwhile history. I have begun the compilation of this volume. If you have letters, diaries, or other information, it can be made the property of the whole family by having it included in this volume of history. I assure you, that wherever the author, or source is known, that author or source will be given credit in the book for his work.

I would urgently suggest to each of the area representatives of the family that they contact the people assigned to them and in a personal visit with them learn what they have on the family history, and get copies of it and send it to me for inclusion in this history. Colleen, if you run across anything, or any of the rest of you, get it and preserve it for this purpose. I got quite a lot of stuff the other day in the mail from J. Allen Parkinson, all of which is being filed and will be used in this work. Thank you, bro. Parkinson. Some of you older people can remember incidents or have heard incidents and they must be written down or be forever lost. Remember, your duty to your family includes passing along what information you have.