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HISTORY OF JAMES ALLRED

James Allred was born in Randolph County, North Carolina on January 22, 1768. Married Elizabeth Warren November 14, 1803. They moved to the Ohio River near Yellow Bank. In 1811 moved to Bedford County Tennessee. In 1830 they moved to Monroe County, Missouri. There he became acquainted with the Mormons who had come from Kirtland, Ohio. On the 10th of September he was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints where the Church had a large branch called Salt River. In 1834 with 2 sons and 2 sons in law James joined the Company of Joseph Smith with two hundred brethren to go to the upper part of Missouri to redeem Zion (as they thought) and to reinstate a portion of the Saints who had been driven from their homes in Jackson County, Missouri.

In 1835 he moved to Clay County, Missouri where the saints commenced to gather to build a Stake of Zion. James was elected Judge of Caldwell County, and also President of the Southern Firm, a cooperative of the people. In 1838 times were very troublesome. The people of the adjoining counties raised all manner of false accusations against the Latterday Saints, more especially against the leaders of the church. The Governor of the State of Missouri under pressure permitted mob violence. In 1839 the members of the Church left in mass and moved to the state of Illinois. James moved to Pitsfield, Pike County, Illinois. In the fall of the same year James moved to Commerece, Illinois, later named Nauvoo. Here he was ordeained a High Priest. On an occassion the Prophet was at a gathering of men, and for his own purpose he had some wine. He offered the brethren a drink, having taught them the word of wisdom. Some thought it would be all right to have a drink with the Prophet, but when he offered it to James he refused stating, "My religion teaches me not to drink liquor". The Prophet replied, "I know I can trust you". Soon after that James was chosen as a body guard to the Prophet.

Upon an occasion James was away south of Nauvoo and was molested by a mob who deprived him of his convoyance. They threatened to kill him. He told them if they harmed his he would be avenged as he had broken no law. They turned to him and stated that he looked like an honest man and turned him loose. In the mean time the Prophet has sent James, his two sons Reuben Warren, and Isaac in company with General Daniel H. Wells. They called upon the Governor of Illinois who was then at Quincy, Illinois, to make demands for protection from mob violance for the Saints. On their way to Quincy they met James Allred out in the praire walking home to Nauvoo at about 11:00 at night. The mob had turned him loose.

While in Nauvoo he was ordained a High Priest and became a member of the High Council and also held other responsible positions. About this time the Prophet and his brother Hyrum, together with other authorities were being pursued and persecuted by the mobs. James' wife would put potatoes in hot coals at night in the fireplace to roast and leave bread and butter, and ffresh buttermilk (which the Prophet was very fond of) on the table so they could come out of hiding during the night and eat.

In June 1844 the Prophet Joseph Smith, his brother Hyrum, John Taylor and Willard Richards were taken to the Carthage Jail. At the jail, the Prophet handed his sorwd to James Allred and said, "Take this, you may need it to defend yourself". James brought the sword to Utah. Before he died he gave it to his

eldest son, Rubban Warren Allred who was a Major in the Nauvoo Legion and also the Utah militia during the Black Hawk Indian War. This sword is now possessed by John L. Allred, a great-grandson, having recieved it from his father John L., the eldest son of Rueben Warren Allred. The sword that is on display at the State Capitol is the officers dress sword owned by Ruben Warren Allred.

On June 27th, 1844 the Prophet and Hyrum were murdered in the Carthage Jail. True to the prophecy that Willard Richards would not be harmed, John Taylor was badly wounded. James Allred took President John Taylor from the Hamilton Hotel where he had been taken. James placed him in his wagon and started home. They could shorten the distance to Nauvoo by cutting through the fields. To ease the torture of John Taylor a sleigh was tied behind the wagon and John Taylor was placed on, his wife sitting by his side bathing his wounds. They went through fields which were swampy. The sleigh was much easier riding than the wagon and upon arrival John Taylor was improving. James Allred worked in the Nauvoo Temple as an ordinance worker and assisted in giving of endowments to the saints who went through the Temple.

James Allred left Nauvoo with President Brigham Young and Heber C. Kimball in the first Company of saints to start toward the west. They traveled to Council Bluffs, Iowa. There the Mormon Battalion was organized. James Allred was appointed Bishop to look after the families of the men who had joined the Battalion. He was alive to his duties as a Bishop. He settled at Council Point on the Missouri River in Pollawame County, Missouri in 1846. He was also appointed as President of the High Council and assisted Orson Hyde in forwarding the Companies of Saints to the valley of the Rocky Mountains. In 1851 he departed to the West and landed in Salt Lake City on October 3, 1851. Brigham sent him to Manti in Sanpete County and in the spring of 1852 he moved to Canal or Spring City, Sanpete County, Utah. He was appointed Branch President over the Branch of the Church. In the spring of 1853 at the General Conference in Salt Lake City he was ordained a Patriarch under the hands of Brigham Young. In July 1853 the Indians gave a lot of trouble to the settlers and they were forced to move back to Manti. In 1854 James helped settle Ephrium under the leadership of his son Ruben Warren Allred who was the Bishop. In 1860 he moved back to Canal or Spring City, where he resided until his death, January 10, 1876. He and his wife Elizabeth had 12 children, 11 survivors coming to Utah.

Compiled by Luran L. Allred
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