



DANIEL BUCKLEY FUNK

Person #10 on chart #2

Daniel Buckley Funk, son of Abraham Funk and Susannah Stoner, was born Feb. 22, 1820 in Montgomery Co., Pennsylvania. His progenitors were known as "Pennsylvania Dutch" as were the pioneers in the settlement of that state. Their principle line of industry was milling, the man for whom our subject was named, Daniel Buckley Funk, having been known as an "Iron Master" there. We also find in the record of the family, ministers, merchants, farmers, editors, school teachers, singers, and others. It was a large family and reached out in various parts of the country, the parents of Daniel having chosen a western trend, moving first into the state of Ohio where most of Daniel's boyhood was spent in the vicinity of what is now the thriving cities of Janesville, Mansfield and Dayton. From Ohio they moved to Illinois, settling on the large farm near the city Quincy.

The Latter Day Saints who had been driven west from New York State had now made Illinois their home and near the city of Quincy the family of Freeborn DeMill also located. Here Daniel met and married Mariah, daughter of Anna Knight and Freeborn DeMill on April 22, 1841. She was born in Colesville, Broom Co., New York. Quoting from her diary will give a brief account of their early married life in Illinois. She says:

"We were married at Father DeMill's house about two miles north-east of Quincy. The next day we moved into the city where Daniel was working by the month. In August we went onto Father Funk's farm twenty-two miles north-east of Quincy. In Jan. 1842 a fine little daughter was born to us whom we named Sarahann. The following Dec. she

died. In Feb. 1843 Daniel joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints being baptized and confirmed by Newel Knight, myself having been a member of the church since the year 1832. In Nov. 1844 a son, Wm. D. Funk was added to our family and the next spring we bought a lot and built our first little house in the city of Quincy. Here our son, Ezra Knight Funk was born on June 1, 1846. This same summer we sold out and bought another home in another part of the city.

We were happy in our new location, but it was not to last, for the government instructed the Latter Day Saints to leave the state. So the next Feb. we again sold our home and casting our lot with the saints were driven from the state of Illinois. We arrived at Pisgah 21 April 1847, and at this place Daniel was ordained an Elder by Lorenzo Snow. Here we bought a house and we raised a good crop that year which served us well, for the following April we, with a company of others, started for the Valley of the Great Salt Lake. In organizing our company for travel Daniel was named to assist for Capt. John Stoker with Company affairs. We were delayed many times on our journey west for the purpose of building bridges, rafts, etc. to enable us to cross the streams but in helping ourselves we were able to help others who had left at a later date and caught up with us.

We arrived in the Salt Lake valley 21 Sept. 1848 and settled eleven miles north of the city. During the fall and winter we built a house and shop and in the early spring we moved these on to a lot in Salt Lake City. This is the place where we had the hand painting made. Here another son was born to us, Daniel B. Funk Jr. After getting a few acres of wheat and a garden planted Daniel, in company with George W. Bradley, went back to Green River, built a Ferry boat and helped the California Gold Seekers across the river. In August they returned home having made \$500 each. One-tenth of this was paid for tithing as was also a tenth of the wheat we raised.

After we harvested our crops, paid our tithes, once more we left our little home to go to the frontier. We were called on a mission to the Sanpitch Valley. The Indian Chief, Chief Walker, had made a request for the colonization of the Sanpitch Valley. He promised peaceful cooperation with the people, and Pres. Young took him at his word. Fifty picked families were called for this undertaking. We arrived in Manti Nov. 1849 and immediately set to work making shelters for the hard winter the Indians had predicted. Dugouts were made under the south side of the Stone Quarry (which was later Temple Hill). This spot was a shale rock formation, and the latter part of Feb. the sun came out, warming up the hillside, and one night the people were aroused by a commotion in the rocks, they got out of their beds, lit their torches, and beheld huge rattlesnakes crawling in the rocks, they got out of their beds, battled with them, using clubs, axes, etc., and killed five hundred that night without a person being injured.

"The Indians were right, the snow came three feet deep, and then crusted, so that the horns of the cattle had to be sharpened to enable them to break through to find feed.

Daniel was kept busy making snow shoes and sleds to haul water from the creek to the camp. The men braved deep snow and intense cold getting out timber for building forts, houses, and mills.

"Chief Walker and his Indians were at this time friendly with the white people which gave the latter an opportunity to turn their attention to matters of industry so the following spring Daniel made a water power shingle mill at the mouth of the canyon. This he sold to Potter and Ritchey, then built another mill which turned out both shingles and

lathe. With the power for this mill he operated a turning lathe and chopping machine. this later feature was for making furniture, spinning wheels and reels, base and snare drums from aspen, with tanned dressed buckskin for heads. There seems no end to the useful items he manufactured. Some of them, one in particular, an iron pot which is in the relic room of the D.U.P. camp at Manti, at the present time, made from iron ore of his own smelting.

Being often called upon by Pres. Brigham to render services in other parts of the state, Daniel found it necessary to sell a half interest in his last mill to his brother-in-law, Samuel Gifford; then of a time he gave his services in the defense of his state and its people by his doing guard and soldier duties in Echo Canyon at the time Johnston's Army was at our door, and on other occasions when danger threatened from without; as well as the ever present source of danger we had within, (the Indians). He was in all the wars, etc. He had a great influence with the Indians.

*(Daniel acted as a scout for the settlers during the Indian troubles. He gained the confidence of the Indians in the area even though much of the time they were hostile and dangerous. The Indians were much intrigued by his exploring and his developing the natural resources in the hills around them. He reminded them of a squirrel, so they showed him favor by naming him as they would one of their own. He was known among them as "The Squirrel" and this added to his prestige with them.)

The almost constant scout work required of Daniel took him into the mountains a great deal of the time and from this he became interested in prospecting. He experimented with colored clays found in our hills until he could make Yellow Ochre and Vermilion Red Paints. He took the raw saleratus from the south-west beds (south-west of Manti) and refined it, making a good grade of baking soda. These products brought 25 cents per pound on the markets in Salt Lake City. He also put up a Silica Powder for cleaning and worked the Alum beds in Six Mile Canyon. This line of industry was carried on until the railroads came in, making it impossible for him to compete in his prices with factory products, so he discontinued this industry.

During all this time he owned and operated a large hay farm west of Manti, and maintained two homes in the central part of the city, but with all, he still felt there were "Other Fields to conquer."

He had long realized the need of recreation for the isolated hard working people of this section and had in mind a pleasure resort built around a body of water. He had talked with Pres. Brigham Young about a little valley in the hills six miles south of Manti, which Chief Arrapeen and tribe made their winter home. This spot was a natural lake bed, but had no water. However, Six Mile Canyon Creek ran just to the south, and with Daniel's knowledge of surveying he could overcome that problem.

As was usual in matter of consequences, he sought the council of Brigham Young and through his help and influences with the Indians Daniel acquired a deed for the property, signed by Chief Arrapeen.

Pleased with his success so far, construction work soon began. With the help of his boys a large levee was built and a ditch along the north wall of Six Mile Canyon made. Now the "big moment," for the Indians had arrived. They were filled with misgivings and expected to laugh at the white man trying to make water run uphill, as it appeared to them.

*(The route the water had to take was even harder and seemed impossible to many people, especially the Indians who were watching the progress of the project with great interest. Because of the lay of the land it looked like Daniel was trying to bring the water uphill. Actually he had taken his stream out of the creek far enough up the canyon that it had the proper fall as he brought it along the north side of the canyon, over the brow of the hill, and into the valley. But he met with many obstacles.)

**("About mid-way between the Arrapeen Valley and the point from which the water was to be taken from the creek was a large ledge of solid stone. Here was a difficulty, for his survey showed that the ditch must pass through the center of this huge rock, or along it's side, midway up. After careful study, Mr. Funk overcame this difficulty by fastening iron hooks in the face of the ledge to which he hung a wooden flume. A few years later, when the flume collapsed, he dug a ditch through the solid rock.")

*The Indians watched, and waited, and shook their heads in disbelief. "Water no go up hill," they said. "Dan Funk beeg man, but no can do."

*When the water was turned in to the ditch and flume, it went coursing along its way uphill as it seemed, over the ridge and into the dry valley. There it rapidly sank! The dry ground drank up the water as fast as it ran through the ditch. Were all of Daniel's efforts and dreams going to be in vain? Gradually, as the parched earth became saturated, the lake began to form. It grew until it covered 75 acres of the Indian Valley to a depth of 20 or more feet in the center. The water glistened like an emerald gem. Now Daniel had to provide the proper setting for this jewel. This was the year 1873, and the newly formed lake was appropriately called "Funk's Lake".

The ditch and dam made, partly in solid rock, to divert water from Six Mile Creek to this valley, is evidence that he was an outstanding engineer.

Now Daniel's whole time and energy must be spent on his own little world. Water was carried around the sunny slopes where the groves of trees must grow, (they planted 6,500 shade and fruit trees) foliage, drops and gardens. Melons and even sugar cane thrived, the latter was made into a fine grade of Molasses.

A temporary home was made in the side of the hill to the West, there soon followed two others on the crest, where the view of the whole countryside was magnificent. The families were moved to the lake and his town property sold. The hay farm was leased to his son, Ezra, who operated it as long as Daniel lived.

He stocked the lake with fish and built row boats for the coming crowds. A willow bowery was made for gatherings, and after a dancing pavilion on the broad levee, and still later another a short distance out on the water.

The Sanpete Valley branch railroad had reached Manti, and from here they built a spur to the Morrison Coal Mine. This track was short distance south of the resort. Arrangements were made with the company to run excursions at intervals, which brought hundreds of people from points north, accompanied by bands and orchestras. These were truly festive occasions. Row-boats no longer filled the demand for a means to get on the lake. In spite of warnings by the management, they were frequently over crowded on the boats. The only accident ever to occur at the resort was from this source, when a boat capsized in a storm and eleven people were drowned. This was a blow to Mr. Funk, but was not to be daunted. He secured the help of a skilled mechanic who had come from

Europe, and together they built a sturdy, but picturesque steam boat, powered by a special engine, with capacity for seventy passengers. This was safe and very popular.

A sand beach in a secluded spot was provided, with lockers and bathing suits, so bathing and swimming were enjoyed.

Funk harvested and stored ice, and was the first to manufacture ice-cream and sell it, which was a rare treat at that time. A booth was near the pavilion where refreshments were served with ice cold soft drinks.

"Funk's Lake" was now a noted pleasure resort, but Daniel constantly planned further improvements, but on 20 Dec. 1888 while on the road from Manti with a load of lumber, his life was cut short by a heart attack, closing the earthly career of one of the most valiant, sturdy Pioneers of Utah.

The following is from the "Song of the Century-History of Manti"

Funk also built a dam across the south end of Arrapeen Valley, which made Funk's Lake, now called Palisade Park. The ditch he made, partly in solid rock to divert water from Six Mile Creek to this valley is evidence that he was an outstanding engineer. Funk also harvested much ice for sales, made cooking and laundry starch from potatoes, baking powder from saleratus, alum, paint from local rocks, tar and charcoal from pinion pine, and cooking utensils from iron which he smelted from local ores. He made several boats, the largest one powered with a vertical steam engine which could carry seventy persons at one load. Many people from Central Utah had their first steamboat ride in this boat floating on Sapphire hued and tree ringed Funk's Lake on the top of a mountain.

Letters written to Daniel Buckley Funk
Letters from Brigham Young

Presidents Office
Feb. 3rd 1868

D.B. Funk

Manti, Sanpete

Dear Brother:-

I am sorry to hear that people will be so foolish as to run after gold seeking that which if found in quantities, which they would like, would make our now peaceful valleys a perfect babel of confusion and strife. God forbid that those professing to be saints should so far forget their duty to their creator as to seek the destruction of themselves their families and the people of God.

You know my faith is that God will hide up the gold and I have seen nothing only that which has strengthened that faith. All who are saints will stay at home and raise food for their families, keep the commandments of God, seek earnestly to build up His Kingdom. And those who are seeking after the glittering ore will miss the wealth for which they have bartered their standing in the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Lord has not shortened his arm neither do our enemies seek our overthrow unobserved by him. We are in his hands and if we will live according to the light which we have received and may in future be revealed to us our salvation is sure.

Praying God to bless you with all the faithful, I remain your brother in the Gospel.

Brigham Young.

Presidents Office
G.S. Lake City
Feb. 2nd 1865

Daniel B. Funk

Dear Brother,

Your note of the 29th ult. respecting your movements and asking counsel had just been received.

I think your better course is to stay where you are and continue to furnish paints.

I remain,
Your Brother,
Brigham Young.

Manti, San Pete Co.

Brother D.B. Funk
Pic-Nic Party
at the

HEAD WATERS OF BIG COTTONWOOD

Pres. Brigham Young respectfully invited Daniel B. Funk and his family to attend a PIC-NIC PARTY at the lake in Big Cottonwood Canyon on Friday, 24 of July.

Regulations

You will be required to start so as to pass the first mill, about four miles up the Canyon, before 12 o'clock, on Thursday, the 23, as no person will be allowed to pass that point after 2 o'clock p.m. of that day.

All persons are forbidden to smoke cigars or pipes, or Kindle fires, at any place in the Canyon, except on the camp ground.

The bishops are requested to accompany those invited from their respective Wards, and see that each person is well fitted for the trip, with good, substantial, steady teams, wagon harness, hold-back and locks capable of completing the journey without repair, and a good driver, so as not to endanger any individual.

Bishops will, before passing the first mill, Furnish a full and complete list of all persons accompanying them from their respective Wards, and hand the same to the Guard at the gate.

Salt Lake City, July 18, 1857

Letter from Eliza R. Snow

Brigham City, Box Elder
July 12th 1861

Bro. and Sis. Funk

Dear Friends,

Father and Eleanor wish me to return to you their sincere thanks for your kind sympathy. It seems hard to part with those we love, but to have them taken from us in

such a rude way seems cruel, but we should not feel to complain when we know that they go to their peaceful home with a pure and unsullied heart.

Heber was taken from us very young. He seemed to make friends wherever he went, his prospects on earth seemed very bright but our dear Father who watches over his faithful children, called him home where he will be much happier than he could possibly have been here. Mother send her love and says she is very anxious to see her dear friends that are living in Sanpete.

Father is very busy building a wall around his premises and enlarging his house. He wishes to be remembered by his friends and would prevail on you to write as often as opportunity and leisure will permit and be assured that a letter from you will always give great satisfaction to your friends.

Yours with respects and love,
Eliza R. Snow

P.S. Mother and Aunt Adaline sends their love and says if you will write they will answer without delay.

Patriarchal Blessing of Daniel Buckley Funk

Recorded in Book D
Page 186 No. 169

Manti, May 5, 1850 (1857?)

A Blessing by Isaac Morley, Patriarch, upon the head of Daniel B. Funk, son of Abraham and Susanna Funk, born Feb. 22nd 1820, Montgomery Co., Pennsylvania.

Bro. Daniel B., I lay my hands upon thy head in the name of Jesus by the authority of the Holy Priesthood. I seal a father's blessing upon thee; it is the seal of Priesthood that will continue with thee, and thou shalt find this seal a comfort and a stay to thy mind, and thou wilt surely realize it influence in thy meditations and prayer, for the Lord has a work for thee to do, that Zion may be beautified, that his stakes may be extended, for thou wilt preserve thy convenants in confidence. Many acts of trust will be committed to thy care, many offices to be filled that will require thy fidelity and firmness of heart; thou shalt be blest in traversing these mountains for the welfare of Jacob and the building up of Zion; it shall be thy gift to find treasures in the earth, and by thy deeds of Charity many will be comforted; let all thy acts of Obedience be sustained in confidence and thou shalt become a blessing to thy family and thy associates, thy Labors shall be blessed, and thine anointing shall be a principle to illuminate thy mind. Keys of Priesthood will be given thee whereby thy Priesthood may be honored and they labors blessed; thy children shall be many, their Priesthood endless; thou hast a work to do in preparation for thy self, for thy exaltation and the exaltation of thine associates for thou art of Jacob, a descendant from the patriarchal family. Be faithful, be prayerful, and thy posterity shall be numerous, thy priesthood endless, and I ratify the same in the name of Jesus, even so. Amen and Amen.

*Taken from "History of Funk's Lake" by Merial Musig Hawkins Great Grand-daughter of Daniel Buckley Funk.

**Taken from an article in the Salt Lake Tribune, by Mr. William H. Peterson