

To Sister Harriet Luke
On the Seventy-eighth Anniversary of her birth

In the year of eighteen-thirty-five Away back east in Main;
On the eighth day of August, unto this world she came
On one of the Fox Islands where Wilford Woodruff preached:
Her parents heard the Gospel, which he came to teach.
The spirit bore them witness that what he said was true
They joined the Church, and later on they travel'd to Nauvoo,
There were no Railroads in those days, and so they came with teams;
A long and weary Journey, with but very little means.
She saw the Prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum too;
But mobs of wicked men arose and drove them from Nauvoo.

They soon were on the road again and travelling [sic] to the West
Where in the Land of "Deseret" they found both peace and rest.

The trials of those Pioneers have never been surpassed.
But still they felt to thank the Lord for peacefull [sic] homes at last
In caring for the sick and dead they Journey'd [sic] to this land
God bless our dear dear Old Pioners [sic] for all that they have done
To make fair Utah what she is the Best beneath the Sun

Composed By Elder William Lindsay

Charles Fiske letter to father

Manchester, England, February 18th 1851

Beloved Father:

I now send a few lines to you to let you know how we are all getting along in England, I mean your family as it is so long since you have had any word from us. We did rejoice when we received your letter for we had been very uneasy about you, not knowing what had become of you but I am glad that you have got to the valley of the mountains amongst the chosen people of God to prepare a home for your family that shall be willing to follow you where God has appointed for the gathering of his people that we may be shielded from the judgments of God that he is ready to pour out upon the _____ of the earth for their wickedness. I pray God that he may bless you with his spirit and with health and strength that you may soon be able to gather your family to the valley of the mountains.

Beloved Father, I have the pleasure of informing you that I was baptized by Elder W. Barnes on the 4th day of March in the year 1850 and I have ever rejoiced since that time. Brother William was also baptized on the 6th day of February 1851 by Elder Barnes. I was confirmed on the 8th day of March 1850, William was confirmed on the 9th of February 1851. I know this intelligence will do your soul good to hear of your children following your footsteps in obeying the Gospel of the son of God and rejoicing in the spirit of God and am anxiously looking for to be delivered from old England to a land that is blest of God where we can sit under the sound of the prophet of God and also his apostles and all good men and women that shall be gathered from the different nations of the earth, but we have much reason to rejoice that we have had such a man of God as the Apostle Orson Pratt for the light and intelligence that has come from that man of God th _____ the help of the Holy spirit has caused millions to rejoice in praise God since he has been in England. He has now left England on his way to the valley and I pray God to help him and his safely bring him to the valley of the mountains.

I also have some hope that Brother Thomas before long will come forward and be baptized but his mind being rather untutored and he his easy led by his companions prevents him at present obeying the Gospel. He believes in the Gospel and only wanted strong resolution to break of his little follies. Father will you pray for us that he will have mercy on your family that we may obey the Lord and be saved in his kingdom when it shall be fully established on the earth with our redeemer at the head of it to sway scepter over the face of the whole earth.

I have also to inform you the female whom Thomas was keeping company with when you were in England and still is was baptized at the same time as Brother William and also her companion and I hope Thomas will not be long until he will follow their example. I suppose I might as well tell you that I am keeping company with a young woman which I suppose as is natural. She is a faithful saint and has been in the church for years. Her name is Ann Beaver. Mother is also writing a letter to you at this time but I thought it might be wisdom in me to go to Brother Barns and write a letter at the same time and tell you all particulars for you know her way and she cannot see as we see at present and is not much in favor of the saints. All that I have got to say she is about the same as she was when you left England. She is my mother and I love her and wish she would be humble that she might see the truth and understand and obey it. I hope it may be so. I talk to her as much as I can on the principals of the Gospel but she soon gets angry with me so I have left off talking much to her on the principals but I always remember her in my prayer that the Lord may turn her heart and incline her to obey the Gospel. This would cause our

hearts to rejoice. Mother is pretty well in health and all your family the same but I need not write the particulars of our family as it will be in mother's letter. I have commenced to take the Millennial Stars in regular. I have got the remainder of that volume which you were taking when you left England, and I have also the whole of Volume twelve and shall continue to take them. The stars are only one penny each now.

Beloved Father, Elder Yates has gone from England for the Valley and I sent a letter with him with all the particulars of your family. You very probably will get it sometime this year. Will you be so kind as to inquire for Brother James Kirkman. He is living with Orson Spencer or at least he came to the Valley with him and if you see him

Luke Family Ancestors, by Christy Poulsen Humphrey

The following is a transcript of a brief history of some of the Luke family ancestors that was written by Christy Poulsen Humphrey. I have made the transcript from a Xerox copy of her hand written copy. My thanks to her for putting in writing, some of her thoughts about some of our ancestors. And thanks to Georgia Humphrey Gardner for giving me this copy. I have tried to transcribe it just as she has written it, and I regret any errors or misinterpretations I may make. Clyde M. Luke July 24, 1997.

Much of the information about our grandparents, William Luke you will have heard or read about and other facts of the early family life of the Lukes. William Luke, left his native country England in 1839, apparently to find work and opportunities for his family. He stayed in New York six months then returned to Manchester England, and his family. We do not know just when he became converted to Mormonism, but was baptized 9 May 1841. Again in 1849 he emigrated to America by sailing vessel, stayed in New York a short time then came on west. At this time none of his family came with him. After arriving in Great Salt Lake, Sept 1850.

He was asked by Brigham Young to help settle Manti. He was give some land, and built a small log home.

We have often heard of the sad incident of his death by the Indians on his way to meet three of his sons, who had come with the missionaries returning to Salt Lake City, William, Charles Oliver, and Henry, and Charles new bride Ann Beaver. These young men were met by friends one went north one south and my grandfather Charles O[liver] and grandmother Ann Beaver settled in Manti.

My mother often said how kind neighbors helped the family after grandmothers death. Mother, (Margaret 'Maggie' Beaver) named after grandmother was much the same build as Ann Beaver with black hair, later a beautiful silver, bright dark brown snapping eyes, and very small. She came to Emery County as a young bride, having met my father, Christian Poulsen when he was living in Manti and helping to build the Manti Temple.

Their honeymoon trip to the Logan Temple took some time. There were five other couples in the group. (Note 1) Mother often told of the two weeks it took them to come by team and wagon, by way of Salina Canyon to Orangeville, where father had been called. Here they lived in a "granery" home, well built for father had come earlier with the Van Burens and made preparations for their home. Mother must have inherited some of the grandmother Lukes integrity in management and stability, for she encouraged Father in the work he did - building the first ditches and canals to get water to the farm lands. Father took out land on the Forest Entry, planting 1000 young trees -some of which still stand on my brother Eugene's farm, and some at my home and many homes in town.

Father kept a "day book" several lines telling of the work or activities of the day - such as "hauled wood for Jim Woodward" - "helped Maggie wash" - "dug post holes for Jim Crawford" - etc.

Father, an emigrant from Denmark at the age of 8 -was well educated for his day - and at the time after their marriage became manager of the "Co-op" store - which became financially sound during his management.

Uncle Charles and Aunt Amanda, Uncle Joe, and Uncle Ben all came to Castle Valley to live - Uncle Charles had a lot and home across the street from my folks and took up a homestead, but didn't care for the country so returned to Manti. Uncle Joe became one of the communites [sic] cattle men and had a good farm - some still owned by his sons. Uncle Ben took over the management of the Co-op store when Father was called to Norway on his mission. Later he moved to S. L.

Mother enjoyed having grandpa Luke come to see her before his death, and hearing from old friends. (Note 2)

You folks who have been to Manti, perhaps remember the "Warm Spring". One of Mother dear friends wrote this poem and sent to her. (Note 3) Mothers task was taking the wool gathered from along the wire fences to the warm springs to wash before carding it. Another of her duties was to carry grandpa Lukes lunch to him on the "South Point Hill" when he was on guard in the Indian War. One time mother was caring for Uncle Ben, the baby, while her mother was out in the 'Little Log House' baking bread. They were now living in a larger adobe home. The Indians were always coming to Town begging for food such as sugar and flour. Mother looked out the window and saw this big burly buck Indian coming toward their home. She became frightened, not for herself, but that he might take her baby brother. She looked around and saw the big old flour bin.

She opened the lid and slid Uncle Ben in and closed the lid - just as the Indian approached the door, Ugh, How, and pointed at the old flour bin. Some instinct directed her mother. Ann Beaver Luke to bring a nice warm loaf of bread out from the back rooms or cabin. The Indian reached for it and left - but it was an experience mother never forgot, now we children ever (never) tired of hearing. Mother lived 44 years as a widow and her loyalty to her loved ones and family was her life.

The narrative ends here. Whether this is the end, or if we just do not have all the pages, or maybe she just did not get around to finishing, I do not know.

Note 1 : One of the couples mentioned here would have been Aunt "Maggie's" sister, Mary Malinda Luke and her husband Aaron Demille Squire, as they were endowed and sealed on the same date, 14 Nov. 1884, in the Logan Temple which had just opened in the spring of that year.

Note 2: Charles Oliver Luke died 20 June 1900.

Note 3 : I have been unable to find this poem.

Clyde M. Luke, Orangeville, Utah. 1997

Emma Luke—Letter to William
Feb. 24, 1850

I read your kind and interesting letter dated Dec. 20th 1849 with warm feelings and was for a time at a loss how to collect my thoughts knowing from whom it came- I now beg leave to remind you of a few facts- and if I could with sincerity of heart- address you in that character which is or ought to be the most endearing of all earthly ties I should then have attained the summit of human happiness. You will recollect that when you left the shores of England the last time I told you then that it would sever the tie that bound us together You was then about for the second time to leave me with a large family unprotected and unprovided for or in other words to a cause or chance existence Your first departure was almost the cost of my life and over the remaining part of that period -I will at this time draw a and forbear to wound your feelings Conscience is a powerful monition and if left to itself will speak through one a still slow voice and referring to your present departure your indifference for a long time together with a number of unkind actions had prepared my mind for your departure in some measure. If however it should prove for the Benefit of my children ultimately I could not feel any greater Happiness than their Welfare By this time YOU will be ready to say you have much to say respecting these Subjects while ~ have left duties undone I admit it and with remorse-- But if However you have thought Seriously on these Subjects you will be ready to say = I hope and trust that there is Better days in view and will not this Recompense for the past I answer (NO) and if Perchance you might wish to know what will --I answer nothing more nor less than a Sincere and Heartfelt acknowledgement that you have not acted your part as a (Husband or Father) We may sustain our Infirmities but a wounded Spirit - Who can bear it --and that from one who Should have Been the Solace of my mind but enough of this -and I will Hasten to Dismiss Subjects that has Caused me many a Heaving Bosom and many a flood of tears ---and may' I say has caused me many angry passions Injured my health --Sunk my Spirit And I have still greater cause to lament --for it has weakened my noble and Intellectual Powers --Ever remember that ---Sincerity and Truth -form the Basis of Every Virtue. These facts flow from a heart - Uncontrolled and Unbiased by any Mortal Being ---Adieu. I think you have not counted the cost of Sending for all The Family at once --You understand that it will Take Some Time to make preparations and Large Means as Well to prepare with --for so long a journey for my own Part --- time and Place Has Become Alike to me, But in The Mean time I have no Personal Desire to Cross the Mighty Atlantic Ocean.

I wish you to understand with regard to our Household affairs there Has not been more Coming in for some time than would half Support them in Consequence of which the money you sent us was soon Done ---and I wish to inform you that a few pounds would at present be very acceptable to me and at the same time a great relief to my mind as I have incurred a few Small debts which I must and will pay Sooner or Later I have a great deal to contend with daily But will not at present enter into it ---John promised to buy me Some Clothes But he has not Done so nor do I think He will. I Seldom See Him. I would say there is no Dependence on Children as to what they will do for their Parents --I forgot to mention there is some talk about John getting Married. Your brother James Luke is in good Health -- But his wife has still Bad Health --and their Circumstances is not so good --- Give my Best respect to all *inquiring* friends & tell them I am happy to hear of their Welfare My own Health _____ But very indifferent --The Family Remains much the same as usual --Uriah Dean Has been very ill of rheumatic fever But

is recovering Uriah Dean and Wife Sends their kind love & is happy to hear that you are getting along. I have to inform you that one the Churches of Babylon is razed to the ground by fire --viz All Saints -- -& it will take upwards of five thousand pounds to repair the damage & fit it for worship. Mr. Lillies Foundry is destroyed also by tire and there is one hundred and fifty pounds Reward for the supposed Incindiary -----

To conclude I hope your fond Hopes will all be realized so far as is consistant with the will of God and may you be Directed by His Council and guided by His unerring Wisdom and let your mind be at all times open to receive the truth --you have my best wishes for your Health and happiness The children all send their fond Love to you

I Remain
Emma Luke

P.S. If you do not answer this letter Please to --acknowledge the receipt of it.

E.L.

The foregoing is a transcript of a letter written by Emma Luke to her husband William Luke. It is taken from a xerox copy of the letter, which adds to the difficulty in transcribing it. I have tried to maintain her spelling, capitalization, and punctuation, as best as I could. It seems that sometimes she capitalized for emphasis, and other times it just seems to be her style of writing. I have placed blank lines to indicate words that I was uncertain as to what they were. Clyde M. Luke

COPY OF A "LETTER OF REFERENCE" FROM A
MR. JOHN DRUMMOND OF MANCHESTER
AND WE DO NOT KNOW TO WHOM IT WAS WRITTEN

Dear Sir:

Hearing that you have had the goodness to offer assistance to get Mr. William Luke's wife and family over, and as I am anxious about their welfare and social happiness and family comforts in a foreign land I beg leave most respectfully such facts regarding them as well as their father now in your employ that will bear the strictest investigation viz.. I have know them for 20 years during which time I can truly say not a single branch of this family is nor has been given to drinking. The next feature of this worthy family is that from the youngest to the oldest have been brought up in the way of truth and early put to work for their livelihood [livelihood] and I may just add that without a single exception no law of this tyranical country has been violated, sooner than want they have turned a deaf ear to the frowns of ungrateful tiranical managers in Masters of man, but WORK, WORK, WORK, has been their motto and I trust ever will, and that the time may not be far away distant when all such families will receive their just reward.

I hope you will excuse the liberty I have taken on writing to you without being solicited. In order to prove this is no fabrication, I beg to state that I hold the most responsible situation _____ in Manchester. I have been in my present situation (20?) and well known to all of the Manchester and London warehouses.

If you wish further particulars I shall deem it my duty to furnish it by _____ I am, dear sir, John Drummond, 13 Maddock Street, Manchester Ardwick.

Charles Oliver Luke—letter to father

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