



HEBER J. GRANT

Seventh President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
Born Nov. 22, 1856

## LATTER-DAY SAINT

# BIOGRAPHICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA.

GENEALOGICAL DEPARTMENT  
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF  
LATTER-DAY SAINTS

A Compilation of Biographical Sketches of Prominent  
Men and Women in the Church of Jesus  
Christ of Latter-day Saints

BY

ANDREW JENSON,  
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Stake), Washington county, Utah, was born Dec. 1806, at Saint Johnsbury, Caledonia county, Vermont, the son of Levi Snow and Lucina Streeter. He was baptized May 19, 1832, by Lyman E. Johnson; ordained a Priest July 16, 1832, by Lyman E. Johnson, and commenced to labor as a missionary, and ordained an Elder Oct. 26, 1832, by Lyman E. Johnson. In that year (Sept. 21, 1832) he married Hannah Miles, who bore him four children, namely, Levi, Lucina, Abigail D. and Mason. In August, 1842, he married Lydia Adams, by whom he had two



children, namely, Sariah and Levi William. In January, 1845, he married Sallie Adams, who became the mother of Julia N., Sarah S., Emma L., Chloe L., Lucy A., Maryette and William J. Bro. Snow migrated to Utah in 1850 and became a resident of Salt Lake City, and at the "move" in 1858 settled in Lehi, where he resided until 1861, when he was called to the "Dixie" mission. He married Jane Maria Shearer Oct. 13, 1850. The children by this marriage were William, Maria, Erastus, Mary Lorena and Mason Levi. He married Roxana Leavitt and Ann Rogers

March 12, 1853. The children by his wife Roxana were Melissa and John L. and his children by Ann Rogers were Willard, Jeter, Celestia, Charles, Frank, Bernella E., Orrin H. and George. Bro. Snow assisted in compiling the first laws of Utah. In the winter of 1855-1856 he attended the legislature at Fillmore and also served as a member of the Utah legislature in the winter of 1868-1869. For a number of years he acted as probate judge of Washington county, Utah, and on July 6, 1867, he was ordained a Bishop and set apart to preside over the Pine Valley Ward by his brother, Erastus Snow, which position he held until his death, which occurred in Pine Valley May 19, 1879. Prior to his death he was ordained a Patriarch.

**SORENSEN, Peter**, Bishop of Darby Ward (Teton Stake), Teton county, Idaho, was born June 15, 1865, at Nordrup, Sjælland, Denmark, the son of Niels Peter Madsen and Christiana Nielsen. He emigrated to Utah in 1872 and was baptized when about 8 years old. When thirteen years of age he was adopted by Jørgen Sørensen, whose name he took. After first being ordained a Deacon and afterwards an Elder, he was ordained a High Priest in August, 1908, and set apart as second counselor to Bishop Alexander P. Hamilton; afterwards he acted as second counselor to Bishop Willard Homer and still later served as first counselor to Bishop Charles D. Larsen. In August, 1913, he was ordained a Bishop by Charles W. Penrose and set apart to preside over the Darby Ward, which position he still holds. In 1891 (Dec. 16th) he married Mary E. Lewis (daughter of Daniel Lewis and Mary Kay), who was born May 8, 1868, at Kamas, Summit county, Utah; she has borne her husband ten children, namely: Arnold L., Douglas P., Marvin L., Daniel S., Daphne C., Sarah U., Ruth I., Gordon L., Mary E. and Beatrice M.

**STALEY, John Wesley**, first Bishop of Crystal Ward (Pocatello Stake), Power county, Idaho, was born April 4, 1880, at Rural Retreat, Virginia, the son of Joseph Crocket Staley and Betsy Collins. He migrated to Idaho in 1901 and after residing successively at Blackfoot and Idaho Falls, he located permanently at Crystal in 1911. Becoming a convert to "Mormonism," he was baptized Nov. 14, 1909, by James W. Killian; ordained an Elder by James A. Ray, and ordained a High Priest and Bishop Nov. 25, 1916, by George Albert Smith and set apart to preside over the Crystal Ward, which was organized at that time. Bishop Staley is a carpenter by trade, but is also engaged in farming. He has served as justice of the peace at Crystal since 1912. In 1902 (Jan. 1st) he married Sarah Phoebe Adams (daughter of Lot Adams and Sarah Ann Plant), who was born June 1, 1883, in Richmond, Cache county, Utah. She has borne her husband three children, namely, Bertha Virginia, Ida Maria and Ralph Edward.

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**STAPLEY, Orley Seymour**, first Counselor in the Stake presidency of the Maricopa Stake and a resident of Mesa, Maricopa county, Arizona, was born April 28, 1872, at Toquerville, Washington county, Utah, the son of Thomas Stapley and Mary Ann Bliss. He was baptized July 18, 1880, by James Jackson, in Toquerville, where he also received a common school education. In 1881, when about ten years old, he went with his father's family to Arizona, where his father and brothers labored for some time grading on the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad. Early in 1882 the family located at Mesa and soon after moved into the Alma Ward, near the present site of Mesa, in the Salt Lake Valley. Here Orley S. was ordained a Deacon, when the Alma Ward was first organized, and was also an active member in the Sunday school and Primary

Associations, while helping his father in his farming operation. His father was born partially blind and always had to have a helper near when working, Orley S. had to take the responsibility of the farm and help to take care of the family. In 1889 his father lost all his property, after which Orley S. commenced manipulating financial affairs for his parents and himself, working at first for small wages, doing farm and dairy work, but by this means he learned the dairy business as well as the



butcher business proficiently. In 1894 (Aug. 22nd) he married Polly  $\rightarrow$  (1:9) May Hunsaker (daughter of Alexander and Malissa Johnson), who was born Dec. 24, 1874. The children by this marriage are the following: Or-  $\rightarrow$  (1:4) ley Glenn, Delbert, Leon, Loral, Aaron, Lynn Erwin, Zelda La Rue, Thyrle H., Zola May, Cleo Malissa and Wayne Curtis. Brother Stapley has been active in Church affairs from his early youth. He acted as president of the Alma Ward Y. M. M. I. A. and also after his removal to Mesa in 1895. He was ordained an Elder in 1897 and received his blessing in the Salt Lake Temple. In March, 1897, he went into the hard-

ware business, together with his father-in-law (Alexander Hunsaker), with a capital of \$500. This partnership existed until 1898, when Brother Stapley sold out his interests, being called on a mission to the Southern States. He filled this mission from 1898 to 1900, laboring principally in Mississippi. When he was set apart for this mission he was promised that he would be worth more if he responded to the call than he would if he had failed to go. He sacrificed his business in order to fill his mission, and the promise was literally fulfilled, for when he returned and entered into business again he became a most successful merchant. The business which he commenced in 1900 is now worth \$300,000. Brother Stapley was ordained a Seventy May 17, 1898, by Seymour B. Young, when he was set apart for his mission. In 1901 he was appointed superintendent of the Mesa Sunday school, which position he held until 1907, during which time he made the unprecedented record of never being late but once in his attendance at the school. In 1908 he was made Stake superintendent of Sunday schools. He also acted as a president of the 90th quorum of Seventy. When James W. Lesueur was chosen as president of the Maricopa Stake, Brother Stapley was ordained a High Priest by Francis M. Lyman and set apart as first counselor to President Lesueur, which position he still holds. Brother Stapley has also been active as a civil officer; thus he served as a city councilman in Mesa for four years and served as senator in the Arizona legislature from 1914 to 1915, assisting to correct extravagance in State affairs and political machinery. He acted as chairman of the appropriation committee and also as chairman of State accounts and methods of business. In 1910 he took a leading part in the prohibition movement, making Mesa the first city in Arizona which "went dry." He continued his efficient work until

the whole State was "dry." Saloon-keepers cursed and swore against him all the time, but he won the victory. His present hardware business in Mesa is owned by himself and sons, and he is also connected with several other business enterprises. Thus he acts as vice president and chief shareholder in the First National Bank of Mesa, secretary and treasurer of the South Side Gas & Electric Company, and is director of many other business concerns, doing business also in Phoenix, the capital of Arizona. He is agent for all branches of the International Harvester Company of America in the Salt River Valley and represents other interstate businesses in Arizona.

**STEEDMAN, Andrew**, third Bishop of the Mammoth Ward (Nebo Stake), Juab county, Utah, was born July 10, 1865, at Forfar, county of Forfar,



Scotland, the son of Adam Steedman and Christina Steedman. He was baptized Nov. 2, 1892, by Orrin Colvin, emigrated to Utah in 1893 and lived successively in Coalville, Summit county, and Salt Lake City. In 1899 he located at Mammoth, where he has been employed as master mechanic for the Mammoth Mining Company practically ever since. Brother Steedman was ordained successively to the offices of Priest, Elder and High Priest. To the latter office he was ordained by James W. Paxman and at the same time set apart as

second counselor to Bishop George Hales. In 1903 he was chosen as first counselor to Bishop Fred Lundberg. In 1905 he was ordained a Bishop by Francis M. Lyman and set apart to preside over the Mammoth Ward, which position he held until Tintic was organized into a Stake, in 1917, when he was chosen as a member of the High Council, which position he now holds. Prior to this he acted as president of the Ward Y. M. M. I. A. from 1899 to 1900. He has also acted as city councilman at Mammoth for three terms. In 1889 he married Eliza Strang (daughter of Andrew Strang and Mary Muir), who was born Jan. 7, 1869, at Wisham, Lanarkshire, Scotland. Bro. Steedman's marriage has been blessed with thirteen children, eight sons and five daughters; of these, six sons and three daughters are still alive.

**STEPHENS, William Orial**, Bishop of Henefer, Summit county, Utah, was born Sept. 23, 1885, at Henefer, the son of William Thomas Stephens and Hannah Edith Richins. His grand-parents joined the Church in England and his grandfather was the first Bishop of Henefer. William O. was baptized Aug. 12, 1894, by Nephi A. Bond; was ordained a Deacon March 5, 1905, by John C. Paskett, and acted as president of the Deacons' quorum for some time. He was ordained an Elder Dec. 16, 1905, by Micah F. Harris and filled a mission to the Northern States in 1906-1907, laboring principally in the State of Michigan and at the mission office at Chicago. Two years prior to this Bishop Stephens attended the L. D. S. University in Salt Lake City, taking the normal and business courses. He acted as president of the 8th quorum of Elders in the Summit Stake from March 5, 1908, until Jan. 31, 1915; acted as president of the Henefer Y. M. M. I. A. from February, 1908, until May, 1915; was Ward chorister from 1908 to 1915; served

as Sunday school teacher from 1903 to 1915; acted as first counselor in the Stake Y. M. M. I. A. from 1909 to 1913, and was a member of the Stake Sunday School Board in 1914-1915. He was ordained a Seventy Jan. 31, 1915, by J. Golden Kimball and



chosen as a president of the 27th quorum of Seventy the same day; was ordained a High Priest and Bishop May 12, 1915, by Francis M. Lyman and set apart to preside over the Henefer Ward. Bishop Stephens is a farmer by occupation, and since Nov. 4, 1910, he has served as county assessor for Summit county. In 1911 (Sept. 27th) he married Myrtle Jane Harris, of Henefer, which marriage has been blessed with two children.

**STERRETT, William Wilson**, a Patriarch in the Church and a Utah pioneer, was born Nov. 18, 1825, in Ross, Butler county, Ohio, the son of Alexander Sterrett and Elizabeth Baxter. In a brief autobiography written by Bro. Sterrett he writes: "My schooling consisted of reading, writing and arithmetic; books in those days were scarce. My mother was naturally a good woman and taught me to be honest and respect the name of Deity. Father was worldly-minded, but an honest man.