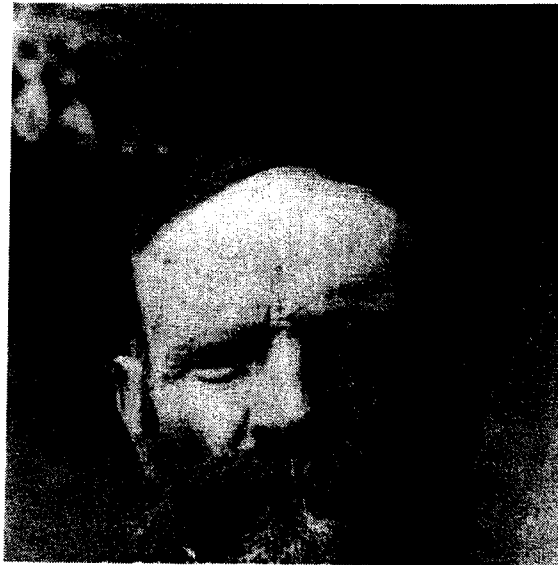
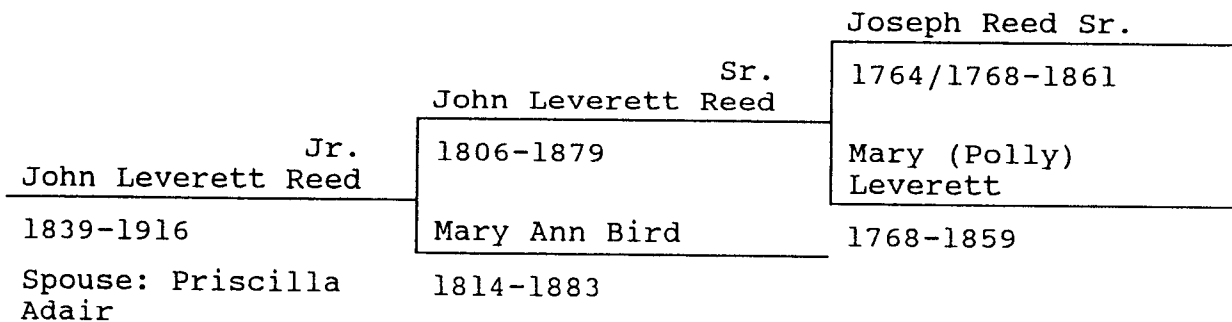


JOHN LEVERETT REED JR
 (1839-1916)

His Life--a Magnificent Triumph. A Man of Integrity With a Kind and Loving Heart. Never Once Complained of Hardships. Remained True to His Convictions. Successful Father of Twelve Living Children. Born a Southerner. Died in The Colorado Rockies.



John Leverett Reed Jr



JOHN LEVERETT REED, JR.

John Leverett Reed, Jr., is the second son and fourth child of John Leverett Reed, Sr., and Mary Ann Bird. He was born February 20, 1839, Lexington, Henderson County, Tennessee.

It was in this Tennessee frontier that, within his close and caring family, John Leverett, Jr., grew to manhood.

Sometime around 1866-67, he was in Evening Shade, Arkansas. It was here he met and fell in love with Priscilla (Perciller) Adair. They were married in 1867. Priscilla was sixteen and John Leverett was twenty-eight.

Priscilla had been an orphan (father died 1851, mother remarried, mother died 1861) with two younger, blind, half-sisters. Priscilla did not want to leave her half-sisters until they were able to care for themselves, so John and Priscilla remained in Evening Shade for some time.

It was while they were in Evening Shade that the 1870 U. S. Census was taken. This census listed a child, Maranda Reed, age three, living in their household:

Reed, John L.	31 M	Born Tenn
Reed, Priscilla	19 F	Born Ky
Reed, Maranda	3 F	Born Ark

Nothing more is ever heard of Maranda. It appears that she might have been their daughter, but she does not appear on the next census. Did she die? It is an unsolved mystery.

In the same year the 1870 census was taken, their daughter, Mary Ellen, was born. Two years later, Melissia was born, and Josephine was born the following year.

Soon after this, John Leverett and Priscilla moved with their three daughters to Lexington. It was in Lexington that they acquired property, built a home, and had four more children, John, Kate, Robert Edge, and Walter.

It was while they were living in Lexington, that an event occurred which would change the course of their lives. It was the advent of a man by the name of Robert Edge—"A Mysterious Preacher."

Many accounts have been given concerning this Robert Edge. One of the most extensive is found in a book compilation by Lundwell (1950), and it is called "A Mysterious Preacher."

In the preface to the book which contains the account, Lundwell gives credit to Milton R. Hunter, a member of the First Council of the Seventy, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, for reading the manuscript and contributing the Forward to it. In the forward Hunter says:

From the time that the Eternal Father and His Only Begotten Son appeared to the Prophet Joseph Smith in the Sacred Grove to the present day, the leaders and members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have had numerous faith-promoting

experiences. Many of these were never recorded and thus became lost to future generations. However, tucked away among other writings which dealt with mundane affairs there appeared now and then accounts of faith-promoting experiences, many of which verged upon the miraculous. From the beginning of the Church on, such periodicals and newspapers as the following have preserved these gems of human experiences: Journal of Discourses, Times and Seasons, Elders Journal...Also, in the numerous books that have been written by Church members during the past one hundred years, similar experiences have been recorded.

Since many of these faith-promoting experiences were published in newspapers, periodicals, or books, fifty years or more ago, they have by now become unavailable to a vast majority of the Latter-day Saints. Only through access to an extensive library and through tedious research would one be able to locate these accounts of spiritualized human experiences. Anyone who would take time to make the research necessary to collect that material and make it available to the reading public would make a commendable and worth-while contribution to his fellow men.

Brother N. B. Lundwell has done this work for us. He has selected from those broadly scattered sources numerous startling and almost awe-inspiring experiences and has published them in this beautiful volume. This book very appropriately has been named Faith Like the Ancients. When one reads it from cover to cover, one feels thoroughly convinced that the people portrayed in its pages have the same faith, the same way of life, the same religious doctrines, the same hope of salvation and exaltation, and the same Holy Priesthood as did the followers of the Man of Galilee in the meridian of times...

MILTON R. HUNTER