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# WINSLOW FARR SR., FAMILY ORGANIZATION, INC.

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## OVERVIEW

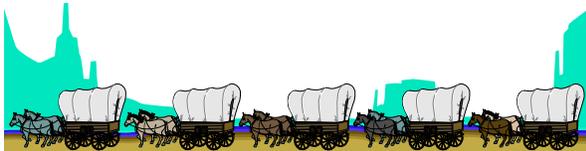
This issue of our newsletter will be devoted in a large part to our coming Winslow Farr Sr. Family Reunion scheduled in Ogden, Utah on August 1st through August 3rd. We hope you will make plans to come to celebrate our family heritage and meet our extended family.

In this issue you will read of Wilma Smith's continued article on Emily Jane Covington Farr, plural wife of Winslow Farr, Jr. Maybeth Reimann writes an article on where the Fars came from. Dean McLeod tells of Aaron Farr's involvement with the Federal Government 1858-68. Several issues ago Dean wrote of Aaron's work as a probate judge.

I will give you a short report on our semi-annual Officer/Trustee and Research meeting in April.

If any of you have an article you would like to contribute to our newsletter please contact me as we actively seek new contributors.

Dave Farr



## LEADERSHIP MEETING

On Saturday, April 27, 1996 we met on the fourth floor of the Joseph Smith Memorial Building, to hold our semi annual family leadership meeting. Since I misplaced my notes, the report here is brief. My memory is good, it is



just short! We anticipated making two changes in our officers and two changes in our trustees which we will announce at our reunion. The trustees are elected and sustained by the family members. The officers are elected by the trustees. We again discussed the hope that at sometime in the future we could find an office, home, building, etc. that could serve as repository for our family records, mementos, collectibles, photographs and a place for family to visit. This could be a place where we could do family research through computers and have a strong and ongoing organization. This might take a paid full time person with family volunteers. This project would also require a big financial commitment. This kind of financial need could be filled by large charitable contributions from members of our family who felt inspired their money would be put to good use. It is a subject we will continue to discuss.

The major part of our officer/trustee meeting was spent on planning the reunion. Our

chairman, Dick West, continues to meet with his committee on a regular basis to plan this event. We appreciate his efforts and the efforts of his dedicated committee. Renee Warner and Deborah Jackson are working on entertainment; Art Budge on maps and the picnic; Mary Lou Lloyd and Sandra Westover on registration, finance and hospitality tables. Dave Farr and Jeff Hansen are working on arrangements for the Friday Family Night and Kay Feeney is working on tours. Sue Fenton has charge of organizing a committee to make phone calls to over 700 family members on our data base. Joe Reimann is heading up our Temple session and providing family names for endowment work. Others family members are also becoming involved as we near Reunion 1996.

Ron Farr led our Research Session with his usual enthusiasm. Due to health and other reasons some family researchers are not able to continue. Ron is still searching for family members who would be willing to take assignments on our various pedigree lines. If you wish to be involved in research please call Ron at (602) 396-5313. It is an exciting and dynamic work.

As mentioned in our 'Research Letter' Tim Farr commented on the many spiritual experiences he and others have had in doing research on the Farr line. His associate and 'professional help', Toinette Thomas, has had a number of experiences regarding the Farr line we hope to be able to publish in the future. Those of you who are not receiving the extra 'Research Letter' should write to us. The research letter comes out once a year and is more in depth regarding our research efforts. To get on this list just make an extra donation towards research. Your financial commitment and personal concerns about our family endeavors are greatly appreciated. These commitments are what keep the organization functioning.

We greatly appreciate the many hours Ron Farr and his committee of researchers donate trying to verify names on our pedigree

chart and to extend that chart. Truly, their effort on the behalf of all of us and our departed ancestors is a labor of love. When we solidify our researchers and their assignments we will publish them in this newsletter so you can communicate with them if you happen to be working on the same line. The more we can coordinate our efforts the more time and cost effective we become.

Joe Reimann, our Vice President of Research reported on the progress of names completed in the various temples. Once Joe can get prepared for our Reunion Temple Session by providing enough names, he can then begin to coordinate getting more names out to the various temples which we will keep you posted on.



Other interesting experiences were shared in closing our research session. Nina Palmer, sister in law, to Elder Scott spoke about how he is taking an active part in the research work his wife, Janeen was involved with at her death. She communicated how he wants to support us in whatever way he can. When I consider his 'incredibly busy' schedule serving on the Council of the Twelve Apostles I feel very little excuse in not doing my all to see that we accomplish the worthy goals of our organization. We have an exciting opportunity to enrich and communicate our family heritage by working together. We will continue to break new ground in research and report our findings. I hope those others who contributed to an exciting meeting will forgive my lack of reporting, but my memory is coming to the end of the pier. It is exciting to think of all the new relationships we form as we work together. There are thousands of descendants of the Farr's we have not yet reached with our work. We hope to do this in the future. Being descendants of polygamous Utah pioneers allows us to say 'Hi Cousin' on a crowded street corner in Salt Lake or Ogden and have half the crowd turn around and waive back. Indeed we have no lack of family!

## REUNION 1996

*'Better By Farr'*

'Better By Farr,' is our reunion theme and we hope that our family members attending, family heritage shared and renewed family ties will be 'Better By Farr,' than our Reunion in 1993. For those of you coming from out of town one of the best accommodations to be found is the Ogden Park Hotel. We are booking 30 rooms there at a price of \$58.00 per night. Please call them at 1(800) 421-7599. Be sure to tell them that you are with the Winslow Farr Sr. Family Organization. Their address is 247 24th St. Ogden, Utah 84401. They have a fitness center, pools and other fine features. If you wish to pay less per night there are a number of motels on Washington Blvd. They are listed on the map you received along with their phone numbers. You will need to provide all of your own food Friday and Saturday. There are a number of fast food places on Washington Blvd. These accommodations are very close to the Lorin Farr Ward and Park where our activities will center. The organization will supply you with drinks and ice cream at the picnic.



We encourage you to fill in the yellow Family Reunion sheet and get it back to us as soon as possible so we can better know how to plan. The reunion suggested donation is \$15 per family or \$5.00 per person. By family we mean immediate family unit - couple + children. We also encourage extra donation as our costs increase. One of those costs was updating our family data base through a mailing which you received regarding the reunion in the last month. That cost alone was over \$1,000. If you wish to be in our Family Book of Remembrance to be mailed after the reunion, send in your 100 word biography and a photograph. If you don't have a good family picture we will have a photographer

there to take your picture. The cost of this book is \$22.00. If you wish to be involved in helping at the reunion, please call Dick West at (801)394-3342.

Our reunion leads off with our Temple Session to be held Thursday, August 1st at the **Salt Lake Temple**. *Please note this is a change from our original announcement of the Ogden Temple which is closed that night.* We will hold a chapel session at 6:00 P.M. with endowment sessions to follow. Elder Richard Scott will be in attendance if his schedule permits. Elder Scott has a vital interest in temple work and continues to try to support his wife, Janeen's work since her passing last year. Janeen is a descendant of Lorin Farr and was a faithful researcher and supporter of our organization. Truly we miss her influence, but feel she still supports us on the other side of the veil.



On Friday, August 2nd we will have registration for the reunion at the Lorin Farr Ward near the Lorin Farr Park. The ward will be open for Registration at 9:00 A.M. Tours of Ogden will be available beginning at 10:00 A.M. Friday and 9:00 A.M. Saturday from the ward. You will need to indicate if you are interested in the tours. These tours will cost extra and we will let you know the cost soon. At registration you will receive a packet of handouts about our family organization, local sights, accommodations and other information regarding the reunion.

In the cultural hall of the ward we will have David Packard, our Archivist, with his cameras, taking pictures of any family mementos or early photographs you want to bring and share with our family. David is building a record for our family that will be beneficial in years to come. We will have a couple of tables set up for you to display family mementos, photographs, articles of clothing or other items you think the rest of the family might find interesting.



So, plan on bringing things to share. This will be done on Friday in the cultural hall from as early as you bring them in the morning through the Family History Day we have planned.

The Family History & Business Meeting will begin at 3:00 P.M. in the chapel of the Lorin Farr Ward. We will conduct family organization business, make announcements and hear some talks. Then we will conduct 30 minute classes on Aaron, Lorin, Olive, Diantha and Winslow Jr. that will be given three times. We ask you to bring any family photographs, journals or stories you have to share with the class leaders. We are in process of gathering the material for these biographies on the outstanding children of Winslow and Olive. At the same time there will be a research class conducted by Ron Farr and his committee in the chapel. This will update you on the latest findings. This class will be given three times. This means you will be able to attend three classes of your choice as we will end at 5:30 P.M. There will be an hour and a half for you to have dinner.



Returning to the cultural hall we will present 'Diantha,' an outstanding One Woman Show by Barta Heiner. Barta is a leading LDS actress and Farr family member. This will last one and one-half hours. There will be a program provided with the outline for this day. This day will be of most interest to adults and interested teens. You can make provision for your children during this time, or if this is not possible, Renee Warner and Deb Jackson will provide some activities.

Saturday morning there will be tours leaving at 9:00 A.M. You can take the maps and brochures and conduct your own tours if desired. There will be games provided at the Lorin Farr Park in the morning for children. They also have a pool there (add any other



activities) At 12:00 Noon we will have a greeting, entertainment and a picnic to end our reunion. Ice cream and drinks will be provided.



Please come and join us at this fun-filled and heritage-rich family get together that will indeed be 'Better By Farr'

David Farr



## WHERE DID THE FARRS COME FROM?

By Maybeth Reimann

Tradition: Shortly after William the Conqueror had invaded the British Isles - 1063-1066 - there was a soldier who also crossed the English Channel from Brittany, France, who bore the name of de la Farr. Gradually both prefixes were dropped from the family name, and it remained as Farr.

The original source of the above information is not known, nor is it sub-stantiated by authentic documents. Hence, it is called a tradition. However, the following is documented:

*The Hundred Rolls of 1215 to 1307 carry the name "Richard La Fayre." Various other forms of the Farr name are contained in later Rolls: Farre, Farr, Fare, as well as Fayre. It is to be noted that "Fayre" is believed to be pronounced the same as "Fair" - one of the spelling of the Farr names in Scotland. There were Farris in Scotland as early as 1446.*

Mrs. A. J. Hesley of Wilkes-Barre, PA, wrote of a Theory of Farr Scottish ancestors: My father, Nathan Farr, of New York State, always asserted that the Farris were of Scotch origin.

He said that they left Scotland for the sake of their religion when Cromwell was powerful (16423-1651.) One of these, Sir Thomas Farr, was dragged to death for heresy. He was a lawyer of Edinboro, Scotland, in 1640. Our Farris are dark and swarthy, which helps to prove father's theory of a Scotch origin.

According to Marvin A. Farr of Chicago: The above theory is of interest in regard to the conjectures regarding our ancestor Stephen Farr. Scotch prisoners were sent to America as settlers, 1652-1656. Perhaps Stephen Farr or his father who is supposed to have been Thomas Farr, was one of these prisoners.

From The Farr Family Records by Rev. Charles N. Sinnett: Ancestor Thomas Farr was for a long time considered as a descendant of George Farr of Lynn, MA. But all who have carefully studied the Lynn records as well as the early records of other towns where the early members of the Farr family were, have been convinced that Thomas Farr was a brother -- or possibly a nephew -- of George Farr of Lynn, MA.



There are found in the records of Heraldry more than one Coat of Arms for notable men carrying the name of Farr. However, since we have not yet made our connection in England or Scotland, we cannot claim the right to use any of these...

It is interesting to note that in the northernmost tip of Scotland, in the County of Sutherland, there is a place called Farr Parish; also nearby, Farr Point, Farr Bay and Farr Forest. The earliest record of this area that we have in our library is for the middle 1700's; it contains no Farr names. However, authorities feel that the place was named after a prominent man carrying the Farr name. There is also a Clan of Farris in Scotland!

Some of the Farris who lived in Scotland

moved to Ireland in the later 1600's, as they did also from England. Up to the present time it appears most likely that our first American Farr ancestors came from England, but with the possibility that they may have come from Scotland. The lists of Scottish prisoners (referred to above) are sparse and incomplete, so it is difficult to prove this possibility. Many of the prisoners of that day were men of great courage. They were put into prison if they dared to worship God according to the dictates of their conscience instead of according to the decreed religion of a particular ruler in either Scotland or England; or for speaking up against a tyrant, especially one that had the authority to quiet such voices by putting them in prison.

If the Thomas Farr (above) who was dragged to death for heresy was our ancestor, we should indeed be proud to claim him!

In England there were many Farris before 1655 (our Farris appear to have come to this country before that date.) The spellings varied in the different counties. However, all authorities agree that the most accepted spelling, and perhaps the original spelling was FARR.

Farr names are found in most of England in early 1600's however, the most numerous, and apparently the most likely to be our family, were in the following counties: Bedfordshire, London, Essex, Middlesex, Worces-tershire, Hertford, Wiltshire, and in fact, some Farris in most of the counties.

Our ancestors accepted the challenge of settling a New World, which was often a hostile world. We too have challenges, although of a different nature. But without them as our forbearers, where would we be? And but for the grace of God, we might have been born in the 1600's and for a very long time, wishing that one of our descendants would find us.

INFORMATION THAT EXTENDS OUR FARR ANCESTORS AND THEIR CHILDREN:

Birth/Chr.  
24 Jan 1619 Thomas FAR - s. of Robert FAR, Haynes, Beds.Eng. Source: IGI 1993

MarriageHumphrey Creed and Jeanne Gooden. Tatterford,

25 May 1625 Norfolk, Eng. Source: IGI  
1988

Chr/b. Ellen CREED - dau of Humphery  
CREED -

16 Mar 1627 Tatterford, Norfolk, Eng.  
Source IGI.

Chr/b. Ann CREED - [ditto above] -  
except Fathers sp.

25 Apr 1630 "Umphrey".

Chr/b. Mary CREED - [ditto above]  
except father sp.

14 Apr 1633 "Umphrey".

Boyd's Marriage Index 1626-1650:  
942  
V25b pp. 193-4  
Vol. 17

Thomas Farr & Eln Creed - 1648,  
Southwold, Suffolk.  
Smith - Gazetteer of England, p. 475;  
Southwold - borough parish 1602 sep  
juris 36 miles ne Ipswich pop 1,876 arch  
Suffolk dioc, Norwich Bapt, Indep, West Meth

Barbados Records  
Chandler: A Guide to the records of Barbados.  
Oxford, Eng. 1965;

972.981  
A3ch

"Some early records of the Friends in Barbados" - in  
the Barbados Museum and Historical Society.  
Vol.xxxiv, No. 1, p. 43

Note: Barbados; Easternmost Island of the West  
Indies; became an English possession in 1627. W.  
Indies became the center of the slave trade.  
Boston Evening Transcript

1645 Thomas Farr "Resident of Boston"  
Source: Ancestral Heads of New England  
Families by Frank R. Holmes - p1xxx/80.

1648 Thomas Farr and Eln (abbrev. for  
Ellen/Eleanor) CREED  
Marriage. Southwold, Suffolk, Eng.  
Source: Boyd's Marr. Index p. 193

1 June 1648 Thomas Farr and Elianor CREED -  
Marriage Source: Haynes Parish Registry  
Haynes, Bedfordshire, Eng.  
[Groom's Residence]

14 Sep 1649 Stephen Farr - Son of Thomas Farr and

his wf.  
Birth/Chr Eleanor Haynes, Bed. Parish Register  
- Source: Ancestral File

1650 Sarah Farr - dau of Thomas FARR and his  
wf  
Chr/Birth Eleanor; [ditto above]

1650 Hannah FARR - dau of Thomas FARR and  
his wf  
Chr/Birth Eleanor; [ditto above].

6 Oct 1652 John FARR - son of Thomas FARR  
and his wf  
Chr/Birth Eleanor; [ditto above].  
Source: FHL: Parish register/Family  
Ancestral Files

Jan 1656 "Elianor FARR - wife of Thomas".  
"Awaiting Transportation Essex [Eng]" -  
Source: Quaker-Society of Friends under  
Fiche heading: Authors & Titles - FHL. 973.W2C  
p.272

26 Mar 1659 Susanna FARR - father: Thomas  
FARR of Lynn, MASS.

6 Oct 1660 Peleg FARR - father: Thomas  
FARR of Lynn, MASS.

6 Oct 1660 Mehitable FARR - father: Thomas  
FARR of Lynn, MASS.

1663 Elizabeth FARR - father: Thomas FARR of  
Lynn, MASS.

June 1663 Johanna FARR, Essex [Eng.] Source:  
FHL Ancestral File. "Awaiting Transportation for  
Barbados" Source: Book - FHL 973-W2C p.  
272

*Maybeth Farr Reimann*  
*From an Article written in 1978.*

## THE WINSLOW FARR SR. FAMILY RESEARCH GROUP IS ON A ROLL

There is really exciting NEWS about  
the progress that has been made on  
research accomplishments of our FARR  
ANCESTRAL LINES:

According to a knowledgeable  
newspaper counselor that I asked, What is  
the definition of Being on a roll? She  
answered, Making considerable and

continuous progress toward a goal. And that is exactly what has been happening!

At this time, one who should be Spotlighted as having accomplished to a great measure his goal: TIM FARR is one of the Farr Family Organization, and also one of its volunteer researchers. Tim had as his goal to find the answer to the long-sought question: "Where did the FARRs come from?, and more precisely, he wanted to know Where did the FARRs come from BEFORE they came to Massachusetts?



One hundred, and more, years ago Lorin Farr, Aaron Farr, and Winslow Farr, Jr. searched for these same answers. Then, probably sixty five years ago (or more), Josephine Farr Olson Lundwall totally involved her life around these questions, as well as information on as many ancestors and their families as there was possible information on. Now her granddaughter, Renee Warner, like Tim, and about ten other loyal researchers, are attempting to carry on the searches.

Tim's progress is encouraging to others who are doing research for the first time, and who might get discouraged when the work progresses slowly. On this, too, Tim has been an example: He is relatively new to research. He is also involved in Church positions. He earns a living by being a high school music teacher, which also involves after-school hours in extra-curricular activities. He and his wife, Lisa, have opened their own business, involving computers. Lisa has also been both supporting, and active in the Farr research. They are the parents of two sons and a daughter, ages six to sixteen. Too busy to do research? Tim doesn't seem to think so.

Yes, there were others who tried valiantly to find the answers as to who our FARRs were, and where they came from, how

and when. It took the next generations to take over where the older generations left off. And that is exactly what is happening. Sister Janeen Scott, when talking about the Family research, was often heard to say, I am SO excited about what we are able to do in new research. Just SO EXCITED! She learned how to use the computer and loved to do it. She felt that the Lord had allowed this wonderful, advanced machine, partly, at least so the research work could be increased. Another thought: The generations now working on the research are among the most intelligent of all God's creations; they are in tune with the work, and they are more efficient than most of these oldies. Now, I must hurry and emphasize that I did say most. There are many of all ages that have applied themselves, and use every tool available. But those of us who are not so adept, are so grateful to have Tim and Ron Farr and others like them, taking the lead.

In the next newsletter, I would like to be able to enlarge on the information new gathered. An article The Story of Thomas Farr is in process. This will include material about the County of Bedfordshire with pictures and my one day visit there in 1983. Also, the background history of the times in which these of our ancestors lived. How Thomas Farr and Eleanor Creed may have met. Some Mystery and Intrigue here? There is.

Future Farr Family Newsletters plan to Spotlight additional family researchers who have been working on others of our ancestors, their families and their times. You will agree?

Our FARR Family Researchers are ON A ROLL and Sister Scott was right... It is exciting!

Thank you each and every one.

Maybeth Farr Reimann

**JUDGE AARON FREEMAN**  
**FARR**  
**AND THE FEDERAL**  
**GOVERNMENT, 1858-1868.**

In a previous newsletter brief mention was made of Aaron's work as a probate judge for Weber county. Subsequent research sheds more light on the implications that such service had for his personal, social and community standing.

For much of the first seventy years of its existence the Mormon church and its people were severely in conflict with the non-Mormon neighbors and later with American society as a whole. Conflicts began in the earliest years when Joseph Smith proclaimed himself a prophet and his followers became phenomenally successful proselyting among the congregations of the established denominations.

In Kirtland, Ohio during the second half of the 1830's the hundreds of converts became thousands, threatening by their numbers, by their cohesive socioreligious structure and their strident rhetoric, those not caught up in the enthusiasm so characteristic of Mormon leaders and converts. The financial panic of 1837, into which the Mormons (along with their neighbors) were whipsawed by inflation then deflation rent relationships between Mormons and non-Mormons severely, resulting in extensive review in the local courts.

Apostasy was rampant, creating further stress, excommunications, recriminations and more widespread anti-Mormon feeling in Ohio and beyond.

After 1839, Joseph Smith took his people into the wilderness of the Missouri river and promptly created an almost auto-nomous city-state that rivaled all settlements in Illinois. With a rapidly exploding population

of migrants, the Mormons in Nauvoo threatened significant political power even in national politics.

Again, the conflicts were often played out in county, state and federal arenas and the court room was often the focus of conflicts between Mormons and their neighbors. Finally expelled from Illinois under the "Extermination order of Governor Lilburn Boggs, Mormons found little solace in the Superior, Circuit or District Courts of the nation.

In such context, the motivation of Brigham Young, the successor to Joseph Smith, in taking his followers out of the United States and into territory minimally controlled by Mexico become a little clearer.

So too can one, in retrospect, appreciate the necessity perceived by Brigham Young to establish a court system in the wilderness that met the rather unique needs of the remote Mormon settlement.

There would be little conflict with neighbors this time, since the Great Basin was inhabited only sparsely by Native Americans, whom Brigham Young took special pains to accommodate.

Having departed the United States in the Spring of 1846, desirous of putting as much geographic and social distance between his people and "Gentiles", Brigham Young found himself and his followers the next year still 1,000 miles inside U.S. territory, the Mexican War having extended American possessions to the Pacific Ocean. By special effort and the blessings of heaven the Mormon Battalion played a role in the wresting of the western portion of the continent from Mexico.

By 1851, Brigham Young had been appointed governor, a territorial legislature was established, and the following year the legislature made provision for probate

courts. Aside from the usual jurisdiction over the probating of estates and conservatorship of minors and incompetents, the Probate judges were given general jurisdiction over civil and criminal matters. "This had the unusual effect of giving them concurrent jurisdiction with the Federal District Courts.

Thus Aaron Farr, who became the probate judge of Weber County in 1858, not only adjudicated estate matters, but ALL matters civil, criminal and probate for Weber County. His court had "original jurisdiction", meaning all cases had to be heard by him first, with the possibility of appeal to the Federal District Court.

According to historian James B. Allen:

The probate judge also presided over the regular "county court", which was the executive and legislative body for the county. This individual, then because of his position in the community was usually one of the most influential men in almost all of the Utah's early counties.

According to historian Tullidge, Aaron's court heard "numerous civil suits, habeas corpus cases and all sorts of crime from misdemeanor to murder."

For years the jurisdictional battle between the Federal judges who were largely anti-Mormon and the Probate judges was a major feature of Utah territorial conflict.

During the late 1850's and early 1860's the "twin evils of slavery and polygamy" were high on the national agenda. Congress passed legislation making the taking of plural wives a federal offense. Aside from all of the other areas of contention, this battle between federal and territorial authority was fought in the Probate courts, including Aaron Farr's.

In most states authority to naturalize new citizens was vested in both local and federal courts throughout the 19th century and later.

Such was also the case in Utah territory. After 1862, with a federal statute on the books banning polygamy, District Court Judges began questioning the new immigrants whether they practiced or believed in polygamy. Thus, by the 1870's new immigrants to the territory naturally chose the Probate Court for naturalization. The Federal judges fought an uphill battle in suppressing this aspect of Probate court jurisdiction.

By 1868 another potentially dangerous force approached Utah. The transcontinental railroad with its hundreds of transient workers began the approach to Weber county. Brigham Young felt the need for reinforcing the control of church leaders in the area. By agreement between Mayor (Stake President ) Lorin Farr and Brigham Young, Aaron Farr would resign his position as Probate judge and be replaced by Apostle Franklin D. Richards. Thus, Aaron moved to other pursuits.

But the political battle of Probate Courts continued.

By 1874, the outrage of those who opposed Brigham Young and the Mormons finally obtained sufficient influence in congress and the Poland Bill was passed that year suppressing the criminal jurisdiction of the probate courts.

The Edmunds-Tucker Act of 1888 gave jurisdiction over divorce to the District Court and made Probate judges appointees of the President of the United States, both rather unique features of American jurisprudence. As part of the compromises in gaining statehood in 1896, Probate Courts were abolished in Utah.

This sketch provides context for one aspect of Aaron Farr's life. It totally lacks the details of his actions, attitudes, experiences and relationships in regard to his judgeship.

As with other aspects of his life, the details are to be found in any of his papers that survive, in the published and unpublished histories of Weber County and in the Probate Court records between 1858 and 1868.

Who among Aaron's descendants have any writings about his life? Who has any of his letters, any journals or diaries, any photos?

It is past due for descendants of Aaron Farr to make copies of any materials they possess and make them available for a family archive. Volunteers are needed who will read the court records to learn what we can about Judge Farr.

#### **WEBER COUNTY PROBATE RECORDS**

*1851-1886: cases 1-687 arranged alphabetically for whole period. In: FHL Catalogue under: Utah, Weber Probate Records, District Court, Weber County.*

*to search:*

*Look first at film 1653004, "Probate Court Ancient Files no. 1-17" This may be an index to all of the cases prior to 1887. Make list of files heard between 1858-1868. These are the cases Aaron heard. Take notes from the appropriate cases.*

*Look next at 1690858. These are divorce records 1859-1886. It may only be a register of actions, not the actual case files. Search and take notes cases heard 1858-1868.*

*See also 1643938, it. 1: This is an index to Naturalization 1860-1930. Were these District Court Naturalizations? If they were Probate Court Naturalizations 1858-1868, we are interested in them. Where are the certificates?*

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF EMILY JANE COVINGTON FARR**

### **"A PIONEER WOMAN"**

#### Part II

#### **Emily Jane Covington Farr**

Winslow's brother, Lorin Farr, the Mayor of Ogden and the Church President for Weber County, recruited and called the young couple to help establish a new Mormon settlement in Northern Utah. By January of 1861 Winslow and Emily Jane moved to a community known as Mendon, Cache Valley, Utah. They lived in Mendon for a season and then sold the small farm and moved on to Paradise, Cache Valley, Utah.

Emily Jane's first home in Paradise was a single room "dugout" in the side of a hill. A fireplace, located at one end held an iron kettle for cooking in addition to providing heat for the one large room. Their children, Emily Olive Farr, LaFayette Thomas Farr and Lorin Freeman Farr were born in this "dugout" home. Winters were severe, often with four to five feet of snow. Emily Jane told her grandchildren of times when young people, would sleigh ride right over the top of their dugout.

During the time when Emily Jane and Winslow lived in Paradise, Winslow Farr, Jr. was selected as Captain in the Minutemen Militia. The Militia, organized into groups of men to work in the fields, and to provide protection from Indians who would often raid the settlement for cattle and horses.

As was the custom, the pioneers often took time out from their work for entertainment. The Mormon families, traveling by wagons or bobsleds, would gather from miles around. They made beds for the younger children and would dance until the wee hours of the morning.

Winslow, who had a saying "I am not a musician, I just love to fiddle around" was always called upon to play his violin for these social occasions. After breakfast they harnessed their teams and headed their wagons toward home.

In 1867, Winslow and Emily Jane sold their farm and moved to Ogden. They bought a lot from his brother, Lorin Farr, and built an adobe home on the corner of 20th and Washington Blvd. The Farr families all had homes which were built in close proximity to each other.

Soon after they moved to Ogden, in March of 1868, Winslow was called to fulfill a 2 year mission for the church in Great Britain. To provide for her family, during Winslow's absence, Emily Jane planted a large garden. In addition she helped support her family by washing clothes, by hand, on a washboard. She ironed the clothes with a flat iron heated on a coal stove. She was paid 50 cents a bundle.

Every fall a group of Ute Indians would come and pitch their tents in the backyards of the Farr family homes. The Indian women would trade their goods for sugar, coffee, salt, spices and dried food. The Indians in return would give hand woven blankets, pine nuts and beautifully beaded moccasins and gloves. Upon Winslow's return from his mission in March of 1870 he went to work for the ZCMI Co-op store.

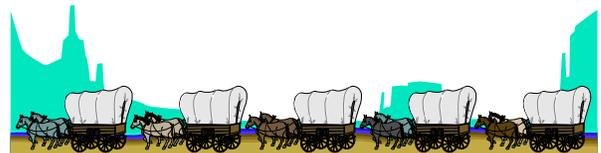
A smallpox epidemic broke out in Ogden city and Emily Jane became ill; however, she made a full recovery. When a large number of people died, the small pox epidemic was given the name the "Black Pox". In order to contain the spread of this disease, Ogden City officials set up a tent city in the area which is now known as Lorin Farr Park. The ill were moved and quarantined to the tent compound. The city officials asked for help in caring for the sick.

Emily Jane volunteered for this duty and until the epidemic was over, she returned daily to nurse and care for the sick.

On May 5, 1873, Winslow Jr. took a plural wife named Susan Melvina Bingham. Winslow Jr. was 36 years old and Susan Melvina was 17. For a time, Emily Jane and Susan Melvina shared the same home in Ogden. Family history relates that Emily Jane and Melvina, developed a close sister-like relationship. When her twelfth child Barnard (Barney) was born October 6, 1878, Emily Jane developed complications and was unable to nurse him. On October 14, 1878 Melvina gave birth to her third child, a daughter which she named Melvina Jane. Melvina nursed Barney and her own daughter until Emily Jane had completely recovered. Barney and Jane (as she was called) remained close through adulthood and would often refer to themselves as twins.

Winslow Jr. married his third plural wife, Matilda Halverson on December 12, 1878. Winslow Jr. was 41 and Matilda was 21. Matilda lived in her own small home on Farr Avenue in Ogden, Utah.

As the westward migration grew, in the 1870's, it became increasingly popular to apply for a homestead. Winslow filed an application for an 80 acre homestead, west of Ogden, in an area known as West Weber. Their two older sons, Lafayette, age 17, and Lorin, age 15, built a small shanty on the property. Emily Jane would prepare a weeks supply of food for her sons while



they stayed in the shanty during the time it took to clear the sage brush from the land. Once the land was cleared the brothers planted crops of wheat and corn. Lafayette

and Lorin first built a granary on the homestead followed by a new adobe home near the front of the property.

Records reveal that Winslow obtained a patent for the homestead in February of 1881.

As Winslow had taken polygamous wives, Emily Jane was anxious to have a place she could call her own. Prior to their home being completed, Emily Jane and her children moved into the granary. Family history relates that Lorin and Lafayette ("Laf") kept a pet snake beneath the granary to keep the mice away. The family remained in the granary until the adobe home was completed.

The two story home was built with adobe bricks which were made from a white clay taken from the lower pasture of the homestead. The family referred to this area as the "Buttermilk Slough". The name was descriptive of the white mud which curdled and adhered to the milk cows' legs when they walked through the

marsh. When the house was completed a white wash plaster was applied on both the inside and outside walls.

Light for the home was furnished by kerosene lamps. Emily would often use her own homemade candles when she could not afford kerosene. Emily paid to have a well dug, near her home, which produced a constant flow of water. The well water helped create a small pond where an enclosure was built for ducks. The family also raised chickens and kept a small flock of geese. Her sons built a hog pen which provided a source for fresh pork. A smoker was used to prepare bacon and ham.

The ample water supply enabled them to plant and harvest a large vegetable

garden. An orchard of apples, peaches, pears and plums was planted. White and red currant and raspberry bushes were added. With all hands helping, Emily Jane canned and dried her own fruit. She was able to sell wheat, peaches and apples as a cash crop. In the root cellar, which had been built beneath the adobe home, canned goods, whole squash, potatoes, carrots, apples and cabbage were stored for family use in the winter time. When Emily Jane and her sons sold their grain crop to the mill, some of the wheat was ground into sacks of flour for their own use. Family chronicles tell of Emily Jane faithfully baking six loaves of bread every other day.

*(This is part II of the thorough and interesting report provided by Wilma Smith and Randall Smith. It will be continued in further issues.)*

### WINSLOW FARR SR. FAMILY RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS

\*A *Research Committee* member is assigned to assist each researcher and coordinate with the Family Research Committee. Please keep your Committee member informed of your needs and progress.

The researchers have been given two major priorities:

1. Make sure each grandparent couple family is complete with all of their children and this information is correct and documented and parents and children have all the temple ordinances and are sealed as a family.

2. Extend through research our grandparents lines, complete their family group sheets and see that all temple ordinances are complete.



\*\*The Chart #'s listed under Ancestor Chart # and Surname are from the large pedigree prepared by Maybeth Farr Reimann.

<u>RESEARCHER</u>	<u>COMMITTEE MEMBER</u>	<u>ANCESTOR CHART #** AND SURNAME</u>
Tim Farr 801-384-2514	Tim Farr	32 Stephen Farr 34 Thomas Powers
Pamela Bott 801-546-0341	Tim Farr	32 Stephen Farr
Joanne Bair 801-487-1850	Tim Farr	35 Mary Taylor
Karen Kauer 206-888-3549	Tim Farr	54 Joseph Davis
Richard West 801-394-3342	Arthur Budge	22 James Trowbridge
Mary Lou Lloyd 801-451-2104	Arthur Budge	24 Edmund Freeman
Suzanne Fenton 801-341-6422	Ron Farr	25 Kezia Presbury
Linda Lee Mercy King 602-545-8197		Ron Farr 37
Lewis & Marily Farr Snow 801-277-6683		Ron Farr 20 John
Anthony & Vicki Farr Abigail Brigham 801-756-8378		Ron Farr 21
Gordon & Jacqueline Farr 801-745-2672	Ron Farr	26 William Johnson
Eldrena Lee Ewer 602-833-2606	Ron Farr	38 Subael Shobel) 39 Rebecca Conant
Lorna Kerby 602-497-9586	Ron Farr	39 Rebecca Conant
Yvonna Tyrell 602-917-8714	Ron Farr	30 John Farwell 31 Dorothy Baldwin
Ron Farr 602-396-5313	Ron Farr	28 Edmund Hovey 29 Mary Farwell

\*\*\*\* There are other researchers who do not have

specific assignments. We invite any family member who desires a research assignment to call Ron.

Additional lines to assign:  
36 Samuel Winslow  
46 Richard Park  
47 Sarah Fuller  
55 Rebecca Patton (Patten)

\*\* Pedigree lines 16 to 31 are one generation closer to us and therefore have double the number of grandparent lines of pedigree lines 32 to 63. That doubles the work for those researchers with the lower numbers. We can go one generation farther back using lines 64 to 127 and accomplish much more. We can use more family researchers.

Ron Farr  
Committee Chairman  
4013 E. Des Moines  
Mesa, AZ 85205  
602-396-5313  
602-396-5620 FAX

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## Notes From Our Readers

Below are listed a few comments from family members regarding the important Farr connection made by Tim Farr and Toinette Thomas and our organization.

**The research report was wonderful tis year. I cried as I read through realizing how much time and especially prayer had gone into the discovery. You encourage us to never give up.**

**Pam Jones  
Scottsdale, Az.**

I am most excited about the breakthrough information and can't wait to hear about it! Everone is to be commended for their hard work! I always anxiously await the next newsletter!

Carol Seitzinger  
Fallon, Nevada

**I sincerely appreciate the beautiful job you do with our family organization. Thank you so much!**

**Martha Hatch  
Socorro, N.M.**

We really do appreciate your comments which give us encouragement to continue on our designated course.

## Please Remember:

1- Our August 1st temple service will be at the Salt Lake Temple 6:00P.M. and not Ogden as first advertized.

2- Please get your reunion registration in right away if you have not done so. Also include your 100 word biography and book order of \$22. The reunion fee is \$15 per family or \$5 per person.

3-Please notify your family members of the reunion and invite them to participate

4- We are looking for someone to take video ar the reunion. If you can, please call us. Also, we are looking for someone to edit out Vermont tapes so that we can produce a video of Vermont, where the Farr family came from to share with everyone.



## LATE NOTES

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, November 2, 1996 for our next Leadership and Research Meeting on the 4th Floor of the Joseph Smith Memorial Bldg. In Salt Lake. The meeting begins at 9:00 A.M.-Leadership. 10:00 A.M. Research.

Dick West, our Reunion Chairman, reminds us of the following:

(1) Bus tours will be available both Friday and Saturday mornings. Probable cost is \$5 per person. You will need to let us know if you wish one of these tours of Ogden and Farr family sights. Please contact Kay Feeny at (801) 394-0125 to register for tours.

(2) Golf tournament is 10:00 A.M. Friday. Let Bob West (801)621-6565 if you are interested.

(3) We will be registering both Friday at Lorin Farr Ward and Saturday at Lorin Farr Park. 10:00 A.M.

(4) Dick encourages us to get our 100 word biography in with pictures and our \$22 for the reunion book which will be a treasured reference of Farr relatives in the future. You can order this book even if you don't come to the reunion.

(5) We also wish to acknowledge Lewis Farr is working with Kay Feeney on the tours.