

President Brigham Young spent the winter of 1873-74 in St. George. This time his house was near enough completion that he could live in it. He brought the cold weather south with him, however. St. George had the first snowfall in seven years--six inches.

Bena's daughter, Ida Keate, was one of the girls dressed in white who greeted him on his 74th birthday by strewing flowers in his path and singing a song written by Charles Walker for the occasion.

President Young organized the United Order in St. George in February of 1874. He told the Saints, "If we are not disposed to enter this order, the curse of God will come upon this people." Three hundred people came forward and had their names entered on the list of those desiring to be a member of the United Order. Horatio was on this list.

The stream running out of Mount Hope was dammed to form a font in the red foothills close to the Fourth Ward schoolhouse. Susanna was baptized into the United Order Covenant, April 6, 1874, by James Nixon, who also baptized twenty-two others at the same time. May 3, her daughter-in-law Harriet was baptized.



Fourth Ward Schoolhouse

Harriet and Horatio turned over a "lot" to the order, probably the first one they lived on, as they had built a bigger home across the street, (approximately five blocks south of Susanna) where they lived with their three-year-old daughter Josephine (Doda) and one-year-old Harriet (Hattie).

They pledged to place in the Order all their time, labor, energy and ability and surplus property as deemed by the Board of Management headed by Bishop Gardner. They were to be credited with labor performed, and charged with whatever they withdrew. Uniform prices were set for all commodities and labor. A ten-hour day's work was worth \$2.00 to \$2.50. Labor was divided, each man choosing his occupation. As a carpenter, Horatio helped form the building union in the "Order".

Susanna sewed clothing and helped James Keate make shoes for Temple workers. In a special United Order Conference held June 5, 1874, President Young instructed the Saints:

"Curtail needless expenses to create a fund that we might send for machinery to save labor of the sisters. I want the sisters to take the lead in custom and fashions. I want to see the sisters practice prudent economy. I refer to the articles of shoes; we expend altogether too much on the importance of shoes. They are so light and flimsy that they soon wear out. I recommend the wearing of wooden bottomed shoes. They are better for damp weather and also for hot weather when the ground and sand become intensely heated. By doing this you can save St. George \$10 to 15,000 per annum. Now I refer to hats. Why not use old pantaloons and make our caps out of them? Just as well wear them as to wear hats we import for the men and boys. By making our own we may save from \$5- to 8,000 per annum. (Old rags were to be saved for making paper.)

"Gather the grapes, have a few general places at which to make wine. Barrel it up, and if my counsel is taken, it will not be drunk here but will be exported and thus increase the fund. Twenty thousand dollars can be realized from our fruit and wine."

George A. Smith counseled them to pen up their chickens, ducks and pigs so they wouldn't do mischief at the neighbors. They should take good care of their health--build public bathing houses that should be freely used. Frequent use of tobacco and wine should be avoided.

President Young hoped the United Order would expedite the temple building. There was a sense of urgency in the work. Brigham Young was old, sick, and didn't know how much longer the Lord would allow him to remain on the earth. He had the keys for temple work and wished to give them in the new temple. He and other Church authorities spent a lot of time in St. George during the four years it took to complete construction, most of them bringing families.

The last of 1876, Apostle George Q. Cannon brought his sixth wife, Martha Telle, Susanna's niece, who helped Susanna do temple work after it was dedicated.

The Keate's former bishop, A. H. Raleigh, also came down in November of 1876 and stayed through March to help with the work.

At this time a missionary expedition called from the northern settlements, was being organized in St. George to go to Arizona. Henry Clay was the co-leader of the company of 84 souls, accompanied by Emma and their nine children. Ross Ramson, his new wife Cynthia (Helen had died), and his ten children were also part of the company. It was necessary to spend some time in St. George securing heavy serviceable wagons and supplies.

The brothers reached there in time to spend Thanksgiving with Susanna, and stayed through Christmas into January. She had the opportunity of getting reacquainted with the two families, and hearing the news from Provo. Her parents were well. Hester, her husband George and family had moved back to Provo for good.

On Christmas Day forty sisters sewed carpet for the temple, trying to finish it in time for the dedication. Many of the carpenters, including Horatio, were also at work on the holiday.

January 1, 1877, the basement and first floor were dedicated, with 2,000 in attendance. Horatio and Josephine sang in the choir and were present in the font room. (Their third daughter Susanna (Zannie) was born just sixteen days after.) To be admitted they had to have recommends signed by President Brigham Young, as he was the only one authorized to do so.

Wilford Woodruff, wearing white doeskin from head to foot, stood on the upper step of the font and gave instructions. The choir sang "The Spirit of God" then Brother Woodruff gave the

dedicatory prayer. Next, officials moved into the sealing room where the choir sang "Come Let Us Anew", and it was dedicated by Brigham Young Jr. President Brigham Young had been carried in a chair by three men, but now he stood, walked to the stand and spoke.

"We are enjoying a privilege that we have no knowledge of any other people enjoying since the days of Adam.... Our Fathers would say 'We have lain here thousands of years in prison waiting for this dispensation to come. All the angels in heaven are looking at this little handful of people and stimulating them to the salvation of the human family; so are the devils looking and trying to overthrow us.... Let those infernal holes in the ground alone and let the gentiles alone who would destroy us.... I am not half satisfied and never expect to be until the devil is whipped and driven from off the face of the earth!'"

He struck the pulpit with his hickory cane so forcefully it buried three of the knots into the solid wood. The choir sang, "Glorious Things to Us Are Spoken", and the meeting was adjourned. The Temple was now ready to perform endowments for the living and the dead. The Endowment House in Salt Lake was performing ordinances for the living, but only in the temple could work be done for the dead.

St. George Temple sealing records show that Henry Clay and his wife Emma did sealings January 16, 1877, for departed relatives. The next day the company said their good-byes and started southwest for a new life in Arizona.

The final St. George Temple dedicatory prayer was given Friday, April 6, 1877, the third day of a five-day conference held in St. George. Large numbers of Church members traveled long distances to be present at the dedication of the first temple in the west. They had been warned to bring their own horse feed, as hay and grain were scarce in St. George; and to bring tents and other camping equipment, provisions and supplies. Eleven of the Apostles were there, as well as a number of visiting Bishops and Stake Presidents.

Contrasting with the red surrounding country, the Temple was a glorious sight, the dazzling white finish reflecting the light of the Dixie sun. Flowering shrubbery from Brother J.E. Johnson's garden decorated the Garden of Eden room.

Daniel H. Wells, counselor to President Young, offered the dedicatory prayer because of the prophet's poor health. Nevertheless, the President spoke briefly at five of the meetings, carried in an armchair. It was the culmination of Brigham's work. He died August 29, 1877. The St. George United Order died with him, though it had been in decline for over a year.

One of the first deceased relatives of Susanna whom she performed ordinances for was Amelia, her sister. Her brother-in-law, Lewis Telle, was also dead by that time, so the couple was endowed and sealed by proxy. Horatio helped Susanna perform those ordinances July 12, 1877.

Brother Woodruff stayed in St. George, working long hours in the Temple each day, until July 11. In September he reported that since January, 23,000 baptisms had been done for the dead (including the signers of the Declaration of Independence), 10,652 endowments, 3,447 sealings, and many ordinances for the living. He was back again in 1878 as Temple President.

At 84 years of age, Susanna's father traveled down to St. George with friends and helped with family temple work. By that time, roads had been improved so that it took only a week to travel by horse and buggy. Susanna also hosted other friends and relatives from the North who came to do temple work.

In the spring of 1879 Henry Clay left Arizona with a group of Indians he had converted, to go to the St. George Temple. Miraculously, the flooding Salt River, Colorado River, Rio Virgin, and Santa Clara River each lowered enough that the company could cross, and then resumed

flooding when they were through the waters. The company camped on the public square near the Keates. After two years absence, Henry had many experiences to relate to his sister.

The 1880 census shows James Keate living alone in Silver Reef. It states he was 72, a shoemaker who had been out of work for three months. In the Reef he hoped to find more customers who needed and could afford his services. Bena and the children still lived in their home in northwest St. George. The same census shows Susanna, age 66, married, and "keeping house" in St. George. Corra, age 19, was single and living with her.

In the previous fourteen years, Silver Reef had proved to be a mixed blessing for the Saints. On one hand, it had brought a much-needed boost to the economy, providing jobs and bringing real money for goods and services. Horatio had played the violin for dances there, and had worked as a carpenter building one of the large mills. Harriet had worked in her father's drugstore.

On the other hand it had brought wickedness, debauchery and anti-Mormon persecutions reminiscent of the Johnston Army problems in Salt Lake a few years before. Church leaders often counseled against becoming involved with their worldly ways. Charles Walker says in 1880, "People from Silver Reef came to hold a 'Liberal Meeting' which means to come to St. George and abuse us by their obnoxious speeches against our religion and liberties."

At one time a lynching mob from the "Reef" conducted a "hanging" in St. George. One of their citizens was found dangling from a tree near the site of the old county courthouse the next morning.

Corra married a man by the name of Williams, who deserted her and she secured a divorce. She found employment in Silver Reef at a good salary. While there, she met Albert Hartman, whose Indian wife had died, leaving him with three small children: Daisy, Albert, and Willie. Corra married Mr. Hartman and became an excellent wife and mother to the family. She had no children of her own, but the teaching of Auntie Keate had its effect and Corra had the three Hartman children well educated. Daisy says she treated them as their own mother would have done and was greatly loved by them.

## XXII. ENDURING TO THE END

"But unto him that keepeth my commandments  
I will give the mysteries of the kingdom  
and the same shall be in him a well of  
living water, springing up unto everlasting life."  
D&C 63:23

Susanna received two letters from her 93-year-old father in his last year of life. The handwriting is extremely shaky and hard to read.

Provo, May 3, 1881

My Dearly and everly (sic) loved daughter Susanna,

Your favored of the 11th inst was just received after dark. I have just finished reading it. And will try to write something you will accept as a reply. It will not do to judge my health by my writing. That depends on the efficacy I make in learning to write with both hands at once. I could not write at all without holding my right hand with my left. I am really glad to learn you are blessed with health, and also Horatio, wife and children. I hope he has recovered from the effects of his attack (sic) of colic ere this. Tell him he has my prayers for every blessing his condition may require. Mother's health remains the same as it has been for two years. (She died June 18, at Hester's home in Provo.)

(He gives her names of relatives for genealogy then writes) You mentioned going to Arizona. If you was going along in the company, I would not hesitate a moment. But as it is, it looks rather hazardous. I think it might be a good move for Horatio, especialy (sic) if Father Jonson (sic) goes. I have heard that George Dunsford, Ross's son with his family were going this season. I have wrote (sic) to them on the subject. No answer yet. If Horatio and you would conclude to go I might assist you a little, say about a hundred or two.

I have not walked any since the first day of June. the pain in my ancles (sic) has left entirely. Sometime in the forepart of the winter one evening two Swis (sic) brethren came to see how I was and found me in great misery. I could hardly speak to them and had been taken so for several days and nights. I couldn't sleep, eat or talk. They stayed until all went to bed then one of them said they must go but did not like to leave me in such misery would I not like to have them administer to me. I said, "Indeed I would if you have faith." They asked if I had any consecrated oil. I had and they went to work as though they knew what to do and when they got through, the pain stoped (sic) and has not returned.

The Arizona trip he alludes to was planned by Horatio's father-in-law to set up a "family city" in Arizona. He spent a year trying to organize the large Johnson clan for the undertaking, but his brother Benjamin F. Johnson talked them into going to Mexico instead. Members of the family prepared to go to Arizona on the first leg of the trip.

August 12th.

Ever Dear and Beloved Daughter,

Your very welcome letter has come and finds me about as I have been for several weeks past, able to sit up in bed and could write a little but now I have lost the use of my right hand. Cannot hold a pen so I am trying to do something I do not make out much and hope you will be able to read enough to see how it is with me. I cannot write with my left hand at all. I have tried. You will have to take the will for the deed. I do not suffer much pain. My appetite is improving. I sleep better nights than I did. I hope you will write often and if you do not learn that I am worse, then I am better.

Remember me to all. I would like to see them great-grand children. Farewell. May Israel's God bless us in all things is my daily prayer, Amen.

D.W.Rogers



Susanna's father was sealed to four other women besides Martha. One was an older lady (called the "Sweed woman" by Brigham Young) whom he helped with business affairs. Two were deceased sisters. The other was Ellen Bennett who bore him five children after he was 78 years old.

David died a month after he wrote the above letter, September 21, 1881, at almost 94 years of age, at the home of his daughter Hester Beebe.

Hester wrote Susanna from Provo May 19, 1882--the subject?--posthumous matchmaking.

My Dear Sister,

Your very welcome letter arrived on the same train with Sister Young. Sister Kimball went on to Salt Lake City....

I certainly feel to rejoice that you have done the work for my children, and I do hope you may receive your reward for all you are doing for me and mine. Caroline came to my house yesterday and we went over to see Sister Young and she talked so very comforting to Caroline and told her to send Roy's name to you, and have you see those presiding at the Temple, if he could not have his endowments, as he was over nine years old. Roy Rogers Daniels born February 5, 1873, died April 17, 1882.

Charlotte's husband is still living. He was favorable to the Church. He wished to be baptized at one time, but she was not willing, so I think (it's) better to leave it for the present. Ozzie is promised to Moroni, he was willing to have her name sent to you. There was several names of young girls who died that Alvaro (her son who died in 1869 at age 19) was acquainted with. Martha (Amelia's daughter that Hester raised) had their names when she was down there, but I don't know whether she done their work. I will write and inquire about it.

I was wishing for some name to come to me when I had written this far in my letter, and one presented itself, and so will send it to you. She was a very

particular friend of Caroline Beebe (her daughter who died in 1870) and sister to one that Martha done the work for, Mrs. Caroline Pickard Warden. She was born in 1852 and died in March 1876. This is the name I wish for Alvaro. Can those who die without their endowments have more than one (wife) sealed to them?

I will send a few more names if you wish to do for them, if not it will be all right.

Mr. Beebe's first wife used to be a good faithful Mormon. She has been dead near 15 years. Her name was Mahala Stevens. If you do her work have her sealed to Mr. Beebe (Hester's husband who died the year before at age 70). I have always intended to do the work for Mrs. Armstrong and have her sealed to Mr. Beebe. And I have dreamed this winter that Mr. Beebe came and told me that was his wish but I did not think of asking anyone else to do the work until you wrote. Mrs. Eliza Dickey Armstrong, born December 17, 1837, died November 29, 1871. She was always favorable to our Church. Her husband is still living but does not believe in any religion.

I will send one more name if you want to attend to it. Mrs. Mary Butterfield Mc Henry. She once belonged to the Church, never turned against it, but her husband is still living, a good man, so I don't wish her sealed to anyone now. She died March 1880...

The passage of the Edmunds Tucker Act in 1882 ushered in what was one of the most trying times since the Saints came to Utah. It forced church leaders into hiding to avoid prosecution for practicing polygamy. By 1885, enforcement of the act was in high gear, with an army of trigger happy federal marshals hunting down husbands and fathers like common criminals. Charles Walker writes,

"President Cleveland has sent troops to Utah for alleged disloyalty of our people. Thirteen carloads of war material landed at Salt Lake City and troops are quartered there. Wild rumors are flying in the U.S. of an uprising of the Mormons and they are expecting a fearful slaughter. Edmonds takes our Temples, women's suffrage, property of polygamists and refuses to allow Mormons to immigrate here."

To help St. George polygamists, a sympathetic telegraph operator in Silver Reef warned the Mormons when the "Deps" were coming so the men could hide. Stories are told of many a close call. During 1885 Benjamin F. Johnson, J. E. Johnson's brother, stayed in St. George to escape an indictment against him in Arizona for polygamy. Susanna requested a blessing at his hand.

"Sister Susanna, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I lay my hands upon thy head, and by the Patriarchal Priesthood I give thee thy Father's blessing. I pray that the Lord will inspire the vision of my mind relating to thy past and future, that my words unto thee may be as the word of the Lord, to comfort thy heart, to admonish, or to make thee glad. The Lord thy God knoweth thy heart. He hath heard the prayers of thy lips, and He hath not forgotten that thou didst dedicate thyself unto Him, for unto this end thou didst come forth in the fullness of times to fulfill His great purpose pertaining unto thee. The arm of the Lord hath been around thee and His hand hath led thee in a way that thou knowest not, for in all the experience of thy life, thy Father in Heaven had a purpose for thy good and His glory. Thou wert one of the valiant with those who kept their first estate and thou

didst come forth to assist to establish righteousness upon the earth, that when the wicked are destroyed therefrom, thy children's children should go forth, and inherit and build up the waste places. To this end the Lord shall bless thee and increase thee abundantly; and there shall go forth upon the earth Mighty men and women who shall carry thy name from generation to generation, and shall honor thee, and rejoice that thou art their progenitor. Thou hast delighted to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, and thou shalt have wherewith to continue the same, and more abundantly. Even the blessings of the earth shall be multiplied unto thee, and the blessings of the poor ever will rest upon thy head. Thou shalt fulfill every law in the New and Everlasting Covenant, and the husband of thy choice shall stand among the mighty men of Zion and shall honor and bless thee all thy days; for thy days shall be lengthened out, and years shall be numbered upon thy head, that thou mayest live even to the fullness of the desires of thy heart.

The spirit of wisdom and counsel shall rest upon thee, and thou shalt stand as a counselor among the honored women of Israel. The light of the Lord shall fill thy heart, and make plain the path of thy... Joy shall spring up in thy heart, and thy last days shall be thy best days, and thy children and all that shall associate with thee, shall love and bless thee all the days of thy life. Therefore put away all of... for the Lord loveth thee as one of his most favored daughters, and will withhold no good thing from thee.

Therefore draw near unto Him in faith, and no whisperings from the evil one shall dampen thy confidence, or thy hope. All the gifts of the gospel that thou dost desire, the Lord shall bestow upon thee, for through Ephraim thou art entitled to every blessing and Priesthood that pertains to the daughters of Abraham.

Now I seal all these blessings upon thy head, with all thy former blessings, and I seal thee up unto eternal life, to come forth a Queen and Priestess unto thy husband, to inherit glory, immortality, and Eternal Lives. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

This blessing must have been a great comfort to her. It promises her the "husband of her choice". She and James were estranged because of his alcoholism and inability to hold down a job. Caroline says she was sealed to Heber C. Kimball. He died in 1868, and I have found no record of a sealing. She is still sealed to James Keate on the records of the Church.

The latter part of June, the Johnson families bid friends and relatives goodbye, and left for Mexico. Harriet's father took his wife Eliza and family to the Tempe Arizona area, planning to travel from there to Mexico. While the family waited for the border to reopen, Joseph E. died of pneumonia (December).

A year later, James Keate traveled to Arizona with his wife Bena and their seven youngest children, planning to join the Johnsons. (Their four-year-old son was named Joseph Ellis after Horatio's father-in-law). Susanna stayed in St. George because Horatio and family decided not to go.





The Temple Wagon,

A former meat wagon fitted with seats and converted into a transport for temple workers.

Susanna performed many temple ordinances for deceased relatives, and also served as an ordinance worker in the Temple. She and her sister Caroline (who had married Abraham O. Smoot as a plural wife) were very concerned with the salvation of their ancestors as the following letter shows.

St. George

March 23, 1889

Dear Sister Caroline,

Your very interesting letter was received a weak (sic) ago today. Last Saturday, Sunday and Monday was conference, so I have delayed writing till today.

I suppose there are many of Father's and Mother's cousins that might be done for, and I want you to do for any that you like. You speak of Mother's cosin (sic) Ezoe. I remember hearing Mother and Aunt Phoebe talk of her so many times when I was young, but I was with Mother so little of later years, of course you know more about some things than I do. None of Mother's sisters have ben (sic) sealed but Aunt Phoebe, and her husband.

When Father was here he wanted to have Aunt Phoebe and Maria sealed to him, but according to the teachings we have, I knew that would not be right, and I knew Aunt Phoebe wouldn't want him. I know Uncle Petty was a good man. He was not religious and that was the bone of contention between him and Aunt Phoebe. She was a shouting Methodist. You remember I was over 17 when we left Dunkirk, and I can remember a good many things about our kin. I never saw Aunt Maria or her husband. I never heard anything to prevent their being sealed. As for Aunt Katy I think her last husband would be the one she should be sealed to from

things I have heard Mother and Aunt Phoebe talk about. I don't think she was very happy with her first husband...(talks about writing to relatives for information).

I don't know how we are going to get the work done for our menfolks. I have hired what I could done, but now even if I had the money, I could not get it done; there are no men to be hired. Father never seemed to care about the work being done for the husbands of his aunts or sisters, but at that time we did not realize the necessity of their being sealed as we do now.

There is Aunt Rebecca. I don't know who to have her sealed to. She and Eaton did not get along well. Father and Mother both thought him a good man. Of course Aunt Clarissa will be sealed to her husband.

I do wish Ross and Henry would come. We could do so much better if we had them to consult with and help. There are some of our cousins I don't know what to do with. Hannah Eaton was married and had two children and died. I don't know what her husband's name was. Saphronia Petty, also Angeline Eaton, Ross said he should have sealed to himself, but if he don't come here how can it be done? When I think of the responsibility it weighs me down. I feel as though I was bound hand and foot, no means and no one to help me. Well, I guess it is all right, or will be some time.

It is very pleasant to know that your children take an interest in your welfare and are able and willing to help you. Give my love to all of them. I would like so much to see them.

(She then gives names and dates from "a list Mother gave me" and ends with the following): I want you to go ahead and do all you can. You can't do too much. Have them sealed as you think best. It will be all right anyway.

Write again soon,

Susanna

In 1890 James and Bena Keate returned to St. George with their children, including a son born in Arizona. One of their sons had run away to live with the Indians because of difficulties in getting along with his father. James Keate died August 9, 1891, eighty-three years of age. Bena died less than four years later at fifty years of age. By then their youngest son was eight years old, and the oldest children were married. Susanna was too old to help much, but was affectionately called "Auntie Keate" by them. The Keates became members of the First Ward in September of 1893.

Susanna was also a member of the First ward. At that time she was living in a room of Horatio's house on 190 South 100 East (three blocks south of the Courthouse), with her own entrance on the west. Horatio served as Counselor to Bishop Thomas Judd from 1879 to 1895.

He was also one of the founders of the library (which was at first housed in his home), involved in drama productions, and served at times as music teacher in the High School, member of the State Board of Education, a state legislator (one year), Washington County Coroner, County Treasurer, director of the stake choir, director of the martial band. He was involved in several businesses: carpentry, furniture store, embalming, and mining ventures. As if that wasn't enough to keep him busy, he later obtained his law degree.

Horatio and his family provided love and companionship for Susanna in her declining years. Their daughter Harriet speaks of their home life:

"Our home was a very happy and congenial one, with all the ups and downs that come in a large family. I never remember hearing one unkind word spoken by my parents to each other.

"From my earliest recollection my father worked in the ward and stake in music. We always had music and singing in our home. How I used to love to hear my father and mother sing together, which they did often. Another pleasant recollection of my childhood was the programs we used to put on in our home. When I was very small we moved to a new home, across the street north from where I was born. We had a large front room; we would hang curtains across one end for a stage and put on programs of music and readings and dramatizations. My mother's brother, Uncle Joel Johnson, played the accordion and would join us in our programs. I recollect one night while we were having a program, my father, who was then leader of the (St. George) Tabernacle Choir, came home and handed me a letter. I hurriedly opened it, and it was an invitation to become a member of the Choir. To my young mind it seemed too wonderful to be true, as the Stake Choir was considered a very good organization and did a work that was a credit to the community. I was about fourteen and the youngest member at that time. Our home was a general gathering place and was always open for parties, and many are the good times we as children and young people had there."



Horatio Pickett family in 1891. Left to right, front: Leo, Horatio, Ellis (on his lap), Henry, Josephine holding Charles; Rear: Susanna (Zannie), Josephine (Doda) who was said to resemble her grandmother Susanna Keate, and Harriet (Hattie).

In January of 1891, Horatio and Josephine's eight-year-old son Huron died. Josephine seemed unable to recover from the loss. Her health was poor through the spring and into the summer.

Thinking Pine Valley's cooler climate might help her recover, Horatio took Josephine, Harriet, three-year-old Ellis, and baby Charles there for the summer. Susanna watched over the three remaining children, Zannie, age 14, Leo, age 12 and Henry, age 8 who stayed in St. George and cared for the house and garden.

Josephine's health continued to deteriorate, and she was diagnosed with quick consumption. She desired to see relatives in Salt Lake before her expected death. Harriet tells of their trip.

"In the early summer of 1892 I accompanied my father and mother and two-year-old brother Charlie to Salt Lake City for a month's visit. We traveled by team to Milford, the nearest railroad station, camping two nights on the way... I could see the train coming in the distance, belching smoke, shrieking whistles, and ringing bells. I was trembling with excitement and curiosity so I could hardly get ready. I stood almost petrified as I watched it roll in. With tears in my eyes I said, "I can't get on that!" Father told me to look inside and I'd feel better, which I reluctantly did... We got on in the evening and traveled all night.... The steady motion of the train caused me to be deathly sick... We stayed in the old Valley House Hotel for a week, and visited relatives.

Again, 79-year-old Grandmother Keate helped look after the children left behind. (Doda was married and expecting her first child.)

Josephine was bedfast during November and December. Horatio and Harriet cared for her night and day while Zannie and Grandmother Susanna cared for the children. Harriet tells of the long heart-breaking nights during the last month when they never had their clothes off for one night's rest. Josephine died December 19, 1892. Harriet says,

"My father was so stricken that my one thought was to help him bear the cross he had to bear. All during those terrible days I never saw my father shed one tear. His grief seemed too deep for that.

"When my mother was taken, although Grandmother was old, she did all she possibly could. She was sewing for friends and made a little money. One whole year all the sugar we had she brought over. She made quilts for us when we needed them, knit hose, darned, mended, etc."

Within a year Harriet married and moved away, and the care of the younger children fell to the third daughter Susanna, who was 16 years old. "Grandma Keate" was an important source of emotional support during that trying time.

Susanna, at age 80, tells how she handled these responsibilities in a letter written to Eliza Johnson, her former neighbor. Punctuation has been added for ease in reading. Eliza had returned to St. George after her husband's death in Arizona, and then moved to Salt Lake in 1892.

Dear Sister Johnson,

I received your letter near a month ago. I think the apron is very nice, I never saw but one anything like it. I can't think how you find time with all your family and cares to do fancy work and remember every's (sic) body's birthday...

Ellis has ben (sic) very sick with malarial fever for near four weeks. He got very weak before the fever was broke. He improves very slowly. The weather is so very sultry we have not had rain enough to lay the dust this summer. I cared for him in the day time, and his Pa takes care of him at night. I could not stand it night and



day too, for I have been quite miserable myself for sometime. I am very thankful I was here to do as much as I have. He is very weak yet, but with good care he will get along. He needs lots of waiting on. I have stoped (sic) 5 or 6 times since I commenced this to wait on him, its Granma I want a drink, Granma I want some grapes, I want some milk, I want to set up, I want to lay down, or something else. As I said before I am more than glad I am here to do it for him. I don't know what the poor child would have done. Dodie (Doda) has been having a hard time this summer, the forepart of May she had a 6-months-old boy (three months premature) that only lived half an hour. She came near going herself. She was in bed for over a month... Her little boy took sick with fever and summer complaint and was cutting double teeth. They went back to Virgin thinking he would be better where it was cooler, but he got worse all the time. Today we got a letter saying they thought he was a little better. We are hoping almost against hope for the best. Hattie is getting along real well. She has a lovely big fat baby, about all she can do to carry him. She is worrying a little because he will have to have the Jewish rite performed on him as soon as the weather gets a little cooler. Horatio and the others are well. Leo works in the field nearly all the time. Horatio has not worked on his farm any this summer...

With love and best wishes for yourself and Rose, Maude and all the rest, I remain yours truly,

S. M. Keate

August 8, 1895, Horatio married 24-year-old Philena Hunt, a friend of Doda's who had been hired to care for the children after Zannie (daughter Susanna) left to get married. Philena sang in the Stake Choir and he probably first became acquainted with her there.

She was the youngest child of Bishop Isaac Hunt, remembered for his remonstrance to some noisy boys in back of the chapel. "Now you boys in the back of the hall, I don't know who ye be, but as big as ye be and as old as ye be, you orta' be ashamed of yerselves!"

The following letters written to Eliza Johnson by Susanna give her opinion of the new wife.

St. George,  
November 17, 1895

Dear Sister Johnson,

I am feeling lonesome this morning. I thought I would spend the time in talking to you a little, I have no particular news to tell you. It is a lovely, warm sunny Sunday morning. Horatio and filena (sic) are gone to the filed (sic). The children are in Sunday School. All are enjoying good health. I think Horatio has been greatly blessed in getting a good wife and a good mother for the children. Any one seeing the two youngest (Ellis and Charles) lopping and lolling around her would hardly think she was not their Mother. The three youngest call her 'Ma'. She has such a good way of managing them without being harsh, she has got them quite civilized. I feel so thankful, it has taken a great care off from me. For about two months Hattie never came around and would not speak to Philena when she saw her. She finds she don't make anything by it so she is acting a little more social. They have moved back into Horatio's (old?) house again. Dodie and Zannie feel all right, Hattie and Zannie are on the increase.

My health is very good, better than it has been for a long time. I went to the Reef and stayed a month with Corra and got a good rest and have been feeling well ever since I came back. The Reef is a terrible deserted lonesome place. There were only 21 persons there counting men, women and children, and some of them have left since. A few Chloriders go there to work and when they get enough ore out for 2 weeks they run it.... There are not many houses left. The Cattiolick (sic) Church was taken to Leeds and put up for a dancing hall. The Prispetereen (sic) buildings were taken down there to build a tannery...

I always wanted one (a little girl) and had to be satisfied with an Indian girl. Well, she has been a great comfort.

Auntie

July 1896

Dear Sister Johnson,

I just feel ashamed of myself for neglecting to write to you after all your kindness to me. I got the linament you sent by Br. Nelson. I kept thinking nearly every day I would write but there always seemed something to prevent. I dont know if you have heard that we have another girlbaby (sic) (probably Ann. Philena, the first daughter, was a little over a year old at that time.) It is almost like having twins, the boys are all pleased with their little sisters. Charlie said he was glad they were girls for we had boys enough. Horatio and all the rest are well. Leo works with his Father at carpenter work. Rennie (Henry), Ellis and Charlie are going to school. Philena is a noble good woman. I think Horatio is greatly blessed in getting such a good wife. I suppose you know Dodie and Charlie (Workman) are at Provo. Hattie and Zannie are well, my health is quite good much better than it was last year at this time. I spent a month at the Reef with Corra this summer, enjoyed myself very much. times are a little more lively there than they were two years ago. The chloriders have been doing pretty well there of late. The weather has ben (sic) very nice this summer. not much very hot weather, it is a general good time of health. I hear Maud has gone to Panguitch... We had a terriffick (sic) tunderstorm (sic) 2 days ago one clap struck on the square near where they are digging the foundation for the new school building, it almost seemed as though it struck all over town, every one felt it so vividly. How is your Mother... Remember me to all and accept of love and best wishes from Auntie. (Her own punctuation.)

Susanna also spent a month with Corra at the Reef in 1897. A year later Corra died at age 37 from "an operation to remove a tumorous growth". She is buried in the St. George Cemetery directly east of the sexton's office.

In December of 1899, Susanna wrote a letter to her nephew Joseph K. Rogers (Ross's son). I will quote excerpts:

"I was very pleased to get your letter. I have often thought of you and wondered if you ever thought of Aunt Zanny. It is very pleasant when one gets old and feeble to be thought of by some of your kin. I almost feel as though I was alone. There are so few of our kin left and I get so few letters. I guess I have outlived my welcome as well as my usefulness, but we have to stay till our Father says 'Come'.

Cynthia (Ross's second wife) has often written about you and yours or I should not have known whether you were in the land of the living or not. I took a great fancy to Loisa (Louisa, Joseph's second wife). I thought she seemed such a good womanly girl and poor little Mary (Ross's daughter), she seemed so childish and innocent. I was sorry to hear of her sad end. Give my kind regards to Loisa (sic). tell her to write to me about herself and family. Your first wife of course I never knew. Tell her please accept my love and best wishes...

"I have had (?) grandchildren, but have only six living. My health is, I suppose, about as good as I can expect. Sometimes I can get about and wait on myself and sometimes I can't. The weather has been very cold for a few weeks past. It is a little warmer today. It is a general time of health, peace and prosperity. St. George is building up quite fast. If the railroad gets through here it will make times quite lively. These (sic) mountains are full of rich ores only needs capital to develop.

"Horatio got hurt in the stone quarry a month ago and is not likely to be able to work for some time to come. Aunt Caroline writes to me occasionally not very often. She is one of the workers in the Salt Lake Temple. Henry (Clay) never writes. 2 years ago (he) was here to go in the Temple. When he left promised to write.... Your father (Ross) used to write sometimes. I was very sorry he did not get to come up to the Temple as he so much desired to...

"I wish you folks would write with pen and ink instead of pencil. My eyesight (sic) is not very good. I have no glasses to suit me so I have to get someone to read the pencil letters for me. I am so nervous I can hardly write. Please write soon."

We have part of a letter written to Caroline late in Susanna's life:

"I got so weak I could hardly walk with a cane. If there had ben (sic) anyone to wait on me I should have stayed in bed and thought I was sick. But as there was no one I had to keep around. The little boy (hired to help her) I have is very handy even to washing his own clothes. I am feeling much better today than I have felt for a long time. I feel very much not being able to go to meeting. I have not ben (sic) for a long time. Very seldom anyone comes in to see me. There was an old folk's party between Christmas and New Years but I never heard of it till it was too late to go. Anna Woodbury called to see me about two months ago...

"I don't think Father knew much about his mother's family. He said they came from Scotland but did not know from what part or when... I remember hearing Granma (sic) (Anne Stowe) Collins telling our Mother about the Stowes. She said in the history of England you will see Stowe Castle and the Earl of Stowe spoken of. She said my ancestor that came out was a younger son of the Earl of Stowe...

"I am feeling very lonesome today, no one to talk to, not able to go to meeting. Accept of my love and best wishes from Sister Susanna."

Horatio wrote the following letter to Eliza Johnson:

February 20, 1903

Dear Aunt Eliza,

It has been such a long time since I heard from you that I thought I would drop a line hoping it will find you and yours all well. We are all pretty well except Mother. She has been quite sick for two weeks. It began with a light attack of "La Grip" and she was not strong enough to stand much. She can't turn in bed without help, and is very nervous, can't be left alone night or day. It is now 2 a.m. I sit up every night till 3 or 4 a.m. and then lie down till about 8.

Well how are you all? Write and let me know. We have been having some very cold weather, rain, snow and frost till we began to think Dixie had gone astray and had floated up toward the Klondyk but the last two days have been a little more natural. Stockmen last fall said if it didn't storm their cattle would all starve to death. Now they say if it don't quit storming and freezing they (will) all freeze to death, but the farmer smiles as plenty of snow in the mountains means plenty of water next summer and that insures good crops.

Well I will close hoping to hear from you soon

Love to all especially yourself

As ever, H.P.

P.S. Please excuse pencil as pen and ink are very unhandy when writing on your knee and having to jump up every few minutes.

Susanna died at the home of her son Horatio January 9, 1905, at nearly 92 years of age. Journal History of the Church has the following newspaper article under the date of January 16, 1905:

#### Death of Noted Pioneer

"Susanna Keate died at the home of her son Horatio Pickett. She was born in Montreal, Canada, a descendent of the martyr John Rogers who was burned at stake. The family moved to New York where she married her first husband in 1833. They lived in London, England, twelve years. While there, she was converted to the Gospel by the preaching of Elders Brigham Young, Wilford Woodruff, and Heber C. Kimball, being baptized by the last, in February of 1841. She returned to America in 1846, and came to Utah in 1852, remaining in Salt Lake 9 years, when she was called to the Dixie Mission. Her living descendants are two sons, twelve grandchildren, and twelve great grandchildren. Mrs. Keate was a consistent and faithful Latter-Day Saint and was loved and respected by all who knew her. The funeral was held at the family residence Wednesday at ten a.m."

#### WHEN I AM DEAD

(Another of Susanna's loved poems)

I do not want a curious crowd  
To come with lamentations loud  
When life has fled.



Nor would I have my words or ways  
Rehearsed perhaps with tardy praise,  
When I am dead.

I do not want strange curious eyes  
To scan my face when still it lies  
In silence dread.

Nor do I want them if they would  
To tell my deeds were ill or good,  
When I am dead.

I only want the very few  
Who stood thru good and evil too,  
True friendship's test.  
Just they who sought to find the good  
And then as only true friends should  
Forgave the rest.

They who with sympathetic heart  
Sought hope and comfort to impart,  
When there was life.

And keeping all their tears and sighs,  
Till weary worn out nature dies,  
And ends the strife.

I'd have them come, the friendly few  
And drop, perhaps, a tear or two,  
By kindness led.

Not many tears I'd have them shed,  
Nor do I want much sung or said,  
When I am dead.