

## DIARY OF ARZA ERASTUS HINCKLEY

In possession of the Silas Hinckley Family - 1939

(Written 1857)

Arza Erastus Hinckley the son of Nathaniel Jr. and Lois, the daughter of Arza Judd, was born Aug. the 15/1826 in town of Bastard, co. of Leeds. We came from there in Dec/37 with my grandfather Judd and in 38 moved to Missouri State, Farwest City. I was baptized a member of the Church of Christ. Stayed in the Ste. until spring of /39 and moved to Adams Co. Ill. The spring of /40 to Springfield. Stayed there two years then moved to Nauvoo. Stayed there and in Springfield until the spring of /46. The 26 of Apr. started west for Missouri River driving team for Joel Ricks to Pisky Mt. Pisgal from there to Council Bluffs drove church team with William Clayton.

From there went in the Mormon Battalion to New Mexico, from there to Pueblo on the head of Arcansaw River in Willises Detachment. In the spring of '47 from there to G.S.L.City, from here to Winter Quarters with the Pioneers. Went from there to Mo. St. I stayed until June/50 then returned bear and in the spring of /51 commenced teaming for the Public Works and am teaming yet.

I was ordained a member of the 27 Corum of seventys at the organisang of it in G.S.L. and ordained a councilor in the same April the 9/56 reseved my Indowments in the Council House July the 11th/51 Married Amelia Woodhouse March the 1/53 and Temperance Ricks Feb, the 18/57.

I was out 400 miles to meet the first handcart company and 280 the last. I was rebaptised for the remission of my sins and the renewal of my covenances with the Lord Mch the 6th 1857.

This time I have seen many things in Mormonism that rejoices my heart. April 6th tended conference. opened by prayer by Pres. Kimbal in witch he dedicated and concecrated Israel and all that pertained to him during the conference there was much of the spirit of the Lord enjoyed by the people, much instruction given concerning our dutys towards our Bretherin and our God. And Thursday there was the sons of the Presidency and that 2 was from 15 to 20 years old upon the stand to speak and spake words of truth & salvation to the people. Conference ajorned until Oct. 6/57.

F.10th (April?) went up city creek canion for firewood. S.L. 11th went to Mill. Sundy the 12 attended meeting in the bowery. opened by prair by Pr. Clinton Brothers, Franklin Wooley, Clinton Minor & and O. Whitney preached in the morning. Went to poliece meeting at intermission. In the afternoon Father Chaes spoke a few minits. The President preached a sermon on truth and the witnesses that mankind had of it within themselves.

Mon. the 13 went to Cottenwood Mills with the Millrites. Came home in forenoon. Tuesday in the afternoon in company with 5 other poliecemen took Thomas S. Williams prisinor for threatning the life of Brother Cimble for witch he was fined \$50 and bound over to ceap the peace under \$5000 bond.

April Wednesday the 15 on duty in the city & the 16 went to the mill.  
& the 17 home making fence & fixing for my trip to Sammon River.  
& the 18 went to mill.

& the 19 attended meeting in the bowery, meeting opened by prayer by L. Young  
some of the missionaries & Pres Cible benediction by Branch adjourned until  
2 o'clock. Meeting opened by singing & prayer. All the missionaries present  
that was going across the plains with handcarts spoke, followed by Pres.  
B. Young, benediction by the same. Brother Ira (Arza's brother) came to my  
house to bid us goodbye until he returned home from his mission. The next  
four days spent in preparing for my trip to Sammon River with president &  
company.

& the 24 Started and traveled to Ogden

25 to Boxelder

26 to Bair R. & crossed

27 traveled up the Malad Valley & 7 miles in Oregon Ter.

28 traveled to the head of Malad Creek

29 Crossed over the Banac mountain which on descending was very rough and stony.

30 reached the Portanang creek.

May the 1 Reached & crossed Snake River 23 rods wide 54 wagons in 8 hours.

the 2 traveled up the river

3 continued on our journey & on the 8 arrived in four Limhi in a fine rain  
8th stayed there  $4\frac{1}{2}$  days in which time we had much good instruction from  
our leaders in the handling of our God over his people in these as well  
as other days. Left there and returned home on the 26. Welcomed home to  
our families. which we found well.

(May 1857)

27 was helping the Deer Creek train to start.

the 28 Drove Bros. Grant, Smoot, Atwood over the mountain to organize the  
Company.

the 29 Went to Mill coming home the eastern mail passed me. Bros. G.A.  
Smith, Bernhisdl & T.O. Angell. (others I didn't read ????)

31 attended meeting in the Tabernacle

Went to the mill the following week.

June the 7 attended meeting June 7. to mill, do 'ditto' week the 14.  
Attended meeting and in the forenoon heard some of the papers read that was  
printed about the Mormons. In the afternoon the Pres. told the Saints &  
explained how the Lord had blessed them. Went to mill the week. Attended  
meeting on the 21. On the following 5 days went to mill. The 27 attended  
muster under the new organization of the Legion. Attended meeting on Sunday.  
From that time until March 6th 1859 on the Public works. Witnessed the  
steady progress of the Church of Christ & those that were faithful of the  
Saints increasing in faith and good works though Uncle Sam sent forth his  
armies to exterminate the Mormons from the earth & spent his treasury. He  
has not hurt a Mormon and they prosper in the land, thus we see the promises  
of the Lord fulfilled spoken by our leaders that not a man should fall that  
would obey the council of the Lord given by his servants. Though not a man  
has fallen by our enemies there has many who have forgot the Lord, neglected  
their duties as saints, turned aside to our enemies & intend to depart from

the mountains in the spring as the country is too poor to live in which will be a blessing unto us.

8 to mill for church fare day

9 Tus. to mill do. stormed snowed very fast.

10 Wed. snowed very hard my youngest child had convulsions ceased this morning 9 days old its mother taken with the milk leg.

11 Thurs. fare day but cold backward spring.

11 Fri. Stormy snowed & blowed.

12 pleasant sunshine.

13 do. to meeting in the tabernacle Br. S. Richards addressed the congregation on the first principal of the gospel to prairmeeting in the afternoon to Seventy meeting.

1860 Jan. 1 Still living in G.S.L. City all well & I myself in the employ of D.H. Wells as his foreman in charge of the Church teams which I hope to do faithfully, perform as well as all other duties required of me by the prophets of the Lord or my duties as a saint. I continued in my duties in labour as usual.

the 2 Settled my tithing. payed 103 dollars for the year 1859. went to Seventies council meeting. Some of the members who had been disfellowship began to see the error of their ways, felt to turn from them and live the life of a saint.

29 Attended prairmeeting in the morning & meeting in the tabernacle. Bro. O. Pratt addressed the assembly. E.T. Benson bore witness to his remarks. Bro. Wells very sick - on guard at Pres. B. Youngs.

30 Road down in the field to see a 9 acre lot of Hendricks & many other places on business for Wells.

31 Sunday at home.

1 Feb & 2 Road up city creek canon 9 miles to look at some wood having been cut & slid off the mountain & the snow road to it. Snow 4 ft.

4 bought a house & 1/2 lot for Tomlinson. To Seventies Council meeting. Some of those on trial overtaken in drunkenness to the sorrow of their friends.

5 To prair meeting. Returned home spent some time in writing.

the 6 Sent 4 teams to west mountains for wood. 1 to Parleys canon with sled to haul down to where the wagons could be taken in to haul it home which after a few days trial of tipping over sled brakeing down the team came home. Sent 2 ox teams up City Creek to brake a snow road to some wood. I accompanied them on horseback worried (?) the teams down in the snow. Drawed sled by hand some distance, loaded on three small logs, hitched on the cattle & indevered to draw them down but to no purpose. I returned home and on the following day returned but accomplished little.

the 8 Sent two mules to relieve them, they stayed, continued on until the 9. The teams being teared tired out, one of them got off from a dugway & the teamster cut the harness to relieve them. On coming home with the ox

teams, 1 fell off the bridge, broke the wagon. The same day the mule team in Parleys' canion broke his sled, that lost in this country 75 dollars. To [two] more of the teemsters broke there harnessis & 1 teem runaway. Thus out of 10 teems 6 met with axidents the same day.

10 & 11 Was about home attending to the business & dutys of a foreman.

12 To prair meeting in the morning in the Tarbanicle. At 11 o'clockv returned home. Spent the afternoon in reding & writing. Time passed on as usual untill March the 3. In the afternoon I attended the seventies counsil meeting in witch the action of disfellowship of McDonel & (H.S.?) Earl last week substained. George (Hule?) case taken in consideration but lade over on account of his abcense. Many subjects of interest spoken of by brethern. Many of them complaining of brothern. Complaned of Brother Joseph for not makeing demands for such means as he needed to witch he gave his reasons for not doing so. In the eavning went to the Tabarnicle to hear a lecture given by Capt. Gibson on his travels.

4 Attended meeting. President B. Young adressed the congregation on many items of Docktrine & principals, spoke upon the foolishness of men in comparison to the works & knowledge of the Lord. Things passed of [off] until the 14. Attended seventies meeting I was called upon to speak. I felt my weaknes and inablite to do the same.

On the 16 I attended to a trial between myself and ?Femas Richison for a heffor. I ganeed the suit

17 To seventies council.

18 Attended meeting. John Taylor preached & spoke upon the difference in the doctrin of saints and denomnation of the wourld.

19-20 to 24 time passed on. Nothing more than usual except seventies meeting adjourned ? senodi?

On Sunday 25 To meeting in the Tarbanickle. O. Hyde preached conserning faith, life, deth, the reserecktion, the authorita of the preasthood of God upon the earth- followed by Pres. Young.

(Written at Rexburg, Idaho, year 188-

Aug. 21st. I was ordained a Patriarch in the Banack Stake of Zion under the hands of Apostel L. Snow being mouth T.E. Ricks and F. Gunnel assisting & sustaining as such by Stake conference same day. Took Apostle Snow to R.R. dept same night. Balance of week spent in gathering crops. Attend meeting in Rexburg Sunday 27th a business meeting in the evening same night to arrange about schools ballance of week geting up grain except Aug. 1st  
Sept. 1st went to Butes Ceder [ceader?] to meet my wife & S. Barnes there tewer [tour] among Relief sositeties on the south side of Snake River in connection with Sis. Zina Young.

4th Attended meeting in Rexburg in afternoon and Mutual improvements accositions in the evening Monday 5th spent in budding trees, etc.

6th Took up this journal book & commenced to write my journal which has been neglected for years.