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SCRIPT OF

THE LIVING HISTORY OF JOSEPH TAYLOR, JR.

AND

SARAH BEST FAMILY

BY

H. JANE BARNES SMITH
817 Murray Ave.
Elgin, Il. 60123-3407

SEPTEMBER, 1993

TAKEN FROM

FAMILY HISTORY OF THE JOSEPH TAYLOR, JR. AND SARAH BEST FAMILY
OF TERRELL/MARTIN/EDGECOMBE/COUNTIES, N.C. AND WARREN CO., KY.

BY

SHARI HUMPHERYS FRANKE
6147 South 2250 East
OGDEN, UTAH 84403

SEPTEMBER, 1993

ROLE PLAYER

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JOSEPH TAYLOR, JR.
b. ca 1751, Virginia
d. 22 March 1818, Warren Co., Ky

Re-enactor: Noel Taylor
9/17/1993

Walker
I am Joseph Taylor, Jr. I was born to Joseph and Nancy Taylor, Sr. around 1751 probably in Virginia. My father was a Planter.

I want to tell you what I can remember about our Taylor family. The Taylor history begins with the land and the land grant my father applied for in 1756 in Tyrrell County, North Carolina. Lord Granville the Lord Proprietor of the Tyrrell County District lived in England and ordered his surveyors to lay out a tract of land containing 640 acres on the north side of Coneto Swamp.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF THE MAP OF THE LAND GRANT.

The land was actually surveyed 4 years later and issued to my father Joseph Taylor, Sr. in November of 1760.

The majority of the settlers coming into North Carolina at this time were from other states: Virginia, South Carolina and Pennsylvania - not from England and other countries.

The country was uncultivated and the Tuscaror Indians were a problem to these settlers.

A year after father received his 640 acres he sold 2 tracts of land from his original land grant - both on the same day in 1761 to:

Thomas Taylor of Norfolk, Virginia a shipwright

and

Richard Taylor, Sr. of Tyrell County, North Carolina, a Planter.

I was about 10 years old at the time. I cannot tell you for certain but I believe Thomas Taylor and Richard Taylor were father's brothers. My memory has slipped over the years.

I do know that Thomas Taylor did not live on his tract of land in Tyrell Co., N.C. with us. He continued his trade in Norfolk County, Virginia as a shipwright.

Richard Taylor, Sr. and my father Joseph, Sr. remained on the land as Planters raising: corn, tobacco, peas, beans and wheat as well as cattle hogs and poultry.

Planters occupied the best sites along the rivers in order to get their goods to market and receive supplies we were unable to raise. Our land was flat, moist and rich in the Western Coastal Plain of North Carolina. We had a few slaves to help work the land - it was the only way for the Planter to farm their many acres.

With Thomas Taylor residing in Norfolk County, Virginia as a shipwright this was an excellent business arrangement for these three Taylor men. Father and Richard Taylor, Sr. were able to supply materials to Thomas Taylor for ship building (lumber, tar, pitch), make vessels to carry commodities by water, and send their produce to market.

I know father was an educated man as he was able to read and write. He may have been educated at home by a tutor and at Williamsburg during the winter term. This was the custom of Planters in those days.

Our table at home was always filled with an abundance and variety of food. Beef and pork were produced on the plantation and fish and game were plentiful. Fresh fruits and vegetables were scarce except in summer.

My mother Nancy Taylor's work was never done, even though we had a few slaves to help with the household duties. Managing the household, caring for my brothers and sisters, preparing and storing food, spinning, weaving, knitting, sewing, making soap and candles for the family took many hours.

Visitors and travelers were always welcomed into our home. Mother would prepare the finest table and we would gather around to hear the news from our guests.

The Taylors always found time to help others at house and barn raisings, corn husking, quilting bees. This was also a time to visit with neighbors and for us children to play.

I remember my brothers and sisters well. I was the oldest, followed by:

1. David Taylor born about 1753 in Virginia. His wife was Imogene and they had no heirs. David bought the tract of land owned by Thomas Taylor, shipwright from Virginia in 1774 - this being a parcel of fathers original land grant. It was important to keep the land in the family. David died in Martin County, N.C. before 1798 at about age 45.

2. Next came John Taylor b. about 1760 in North Carolina. He married Ellen Drake and had 5 children. John died around 1825 in Edgecombe County, North Carolina.

3. A sister followed brother John. She was born around 1772 in North Carolina. She did not live long dying by 1808. If I remember correctly her husband was William Best of Edgecombe Co., N.C.

4. Another sister Amy Taylor was born about 1775 in North Carolina.

HERE IS A PICTURE OF AMY TAYLOR WALLACE AND SOME OF HER FAMILY.

Amy married Etheldred Wallace in N.C. a prominent attorney about 1810 and moved to Bumpis Mills, Stewart County, Tennessee, where they raised their 8 children. Six years before Amy died in 1865 she and "Dreddie" agreed "to live separate and apart from each other because some unhappy differences have arisen lately". Etheldred Wallace died 1862. They both died in Stewart County, Tenn.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON WALLACE, JR. AND HIS WIFE TABITHA FREE. GEORGE WASHINGTON WALLACE IS A GRANDSON OF ETHELDRED AND AMY TAYLOR WALLACE.

You may be wondering how the Taylor Family lived in three counties: Tyrrell County, Martin County and Edgecombe Co., N.C. In 1774 Martin County was created from the western part of Tyrrell County. Our Taylor land fell into Martin Country from 1774-1793 - then a boundary dispute of many years' arose between Martin and Edgecombe which finally settled in favor of Edgecombe. Thus most all of the Taylor property fell into Edgecombe County after 1793.

In 1775 the Revolutionary War broke out, and in April of 1776 North Carolina became the first colony to intrust its Continental Congress delegates to vote for independence.

The first battle fought in N.C. soil was waged by North Carolina Tories against North Carolina Whigs. The battle took place a Moore's Creek Bridge near Wililmington in February 1776 an overwhelming Whig victory.

John Lewelling, who was my fathers neighbor was one of North Carolina's most famous Tories.

I enlisted in the Continental Army in 1776 and served 2 and 1/2 years, being discharged in January 1779. Returning home I joined the Martin County Militia in October of 1779 and served as a private in the capacity of a gunsmith.

Few battles were fought in North Carolina. One North Carolina battle was a turning point in the war. On March 15, 1781, at Guilford Courthouse, the troops of American General Nathaniel Greene clashed with British forces led by Lord Charles Cornwallis. The first line at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse consisted of North Carolina Militia and I am proud to say I was among that militia. It has been said I was wounded in the head that day - I do not remember - maybe that's why. We were outnumbered by the

British who were also superior in organization, discipline and experience. Our troops withdrew as they fought, but we inflicted such a terrible destruction upon the British troops that they did not pursue us. Though the British won, they left severely weakened. Seven months later Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia.

Returning home from my tour of duty I met Sarah Best from a neighboring plantation. When I had left she was just a young girl of 12 and now she had grown into a beautiful young woman. Falling in love we married. Sarah was 18 then and I was 32.

(Enter Sarah Best Taylor) This is my dear wife, Sarah.

Father added additional land to the Taylor estate - 2 separate land grants in 1783.

Sarah and I lived on the Taylor land where our 12 children were born in Edgecombe County on Coneto Creek: Frances, Amy, William, Allen, Mary Ann, Seraphy Temperance, Nancy, Sarah Best, Joseph Best, Elizabeth Ann, Delilah, and Charlotte.

SARAH BEST TAYLOR

Re-enactor: Blanche McGhie

b. ca 1764 of Tyrell Co., N.C.

d. 1834 Warren Co., Ky.

In the year 1808 Joseph and I decided to move our family from Edgecomb County, N.C. to Warren County, Ky. Joseph's father Joseph Taylor, Sr. sold the last property belonging to him and Joseph, Jr. prior to our move.

My father-in-law Joseph Taylor, Sr. died before 27 Feb. 1808 in Edgecombe Co., N.C. and was buried on the Taylor Plantation beside his wife.

In the Fall of 1808 we started out on a long journey to Warren Co., Ky. All 12 of our children came with us, the youngest being 3. Two of our married daughters came with their husbands: Frances and William Cherry, Jr. and Amy and John Wallace.

We traveled by horseback. The women riding sidesaddle - their skirts were stained from the berries of the sumac along the trail. Wagons carried our possessions of seeds for new crops, our precious asparagus roots, food, clothing, tools, books, keepsakes. We were quite a large cumbersome cavalcade trying to be safe from Indians and animals.

The best and shortest route was through the Appalachian Mountains and then through the Cumberland Gap, following the Wilderness Trail through Tennessee, and then taking the Cumberland Trace into south central Kentucky.

Arriving in our new Kentucky home land we built a log cabin of yellow poplar logs near Richardsville, Warren County, Kentucky. Richardsville was actually established many years after our arrival. The country was covered with thick forests giving us plenty of building materials and fire wood. Our cabin was located above a spring on a branch now known as "Taylor Branch".

This is a photo of Taylor Branch.

Here is a photo of our cabin taken in the 1930's. Little did we know it would survive over 100 years.

Joseph was able to purchase two parcels of land. One being 140 acres purchased in May 1809 for 60 pounds, the other 144 acres purchased in 1811 for 120 pounds

Our faithful house servant Jake came with us on our long journey. His cabin was located below our house next to the spring, which was called "Jake's Spring". I hope you will be able to visit our home site near "Jake's Spring". It is beautiful spot. The lawn extends over a steep hillside covered with Kentucky blue grass. Black walnut trees are scattered about. In the Springtime,

the violets line the spring along with ferns lady slippers and wild orchid. The spring is still clear and cool today.

Jake continued to care for me after Joseph's death. He carried water, wood, and food up the hill to our home. Jake was also an artist with stone, he made many of the gravestones in the Taylor Graveyard. He also made a beautiful monument for one of our grandchildren at the Hudnall graveyard.

After I passed on, old "Jake" went to work for our son Allen Taylor whose home was nearby. When he became feeble, they cared for him but he still continued to live in the little cabin beside the spring. When Jake died he was buried at the Taylor Graveyard on our land in the slave section of the cemetery, beside the other Taylor slaves: Luke Alexander, Mason Taylor, Frankie Taylor, Creasy Taylor, Jack Taylor and Sam Taylor.

The Taylors were Episcopalians in the early years, but many became Methodist later on. Many of our children worshiped at the Old Green River Union Church near Richardsville. The first services of this church were actually held at the home of James Hudnall, Jr. and his wife Rhoda Chastain whom we knew well.

This is a picture of the old meeting house.

A burial ground surrounds the church and I understand there is a military monument there in memory of my husband Joseph's services in the Revolutionary War.

A historical marker was placed at Ky. junction 67 and 263 in the Spring 1964 to note the Green River Union Meeting house.

This is a photo of the historical marker:

It reads:

"Old Meeting house.

Green River Union Meeting house, part of the Great Frontier Revival of early 1800's and burial ground are three miles northwest.

Huguenots came 1806 and 1814, organized and built log church, then about 1845, present meeting house. Methodist, Baptists, Presbyterians met there before building own churches in area.

Many leading ministers of those days were trained there."

We had several ministers in our family.

If you have time while you are here I hope you will visit Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green a fine university. A statue of Henry Hardin Cherry our great grandson stands in front of

Henry Hardin Cherry Hall. It is quite a good likeness of him. We are quite proud of Henry, as he was the first president of the university.

HERE'S A PHOTO OF THE STATUE of Henry Hardin Cherry.

Two other great grandsons of ours, Dr. Everett Edward Taylor and Dr. William Henry Taylor, brothers, were co-founders of Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. It has been said, "from the Taylor ancestors we inherited a love for the principles of learning, teaching and preaching".

Joseph and I lived here on the Taylor land long enough to see all of our 12 children except Nancy, grow up, marry and move away. Nancy was almost grown and was about 12 when she died. Most of the children stayed here in Warren County and raised their families. But some were destined to move to other states never to see them again.

On the 22nd of March 1818 Joseph died and was buried in an unmarked grave at the Taylor Graveyard near our home. I lived 16 more years after Joseph's death and saw many of the grandchildren grow up. I was buried beside my beloved Joseph in 1834.

A beautiful monument was erected at the Taylor graveyard in our memory by our many descendants in 1928.

(PHOTO TAYLOR MONUMENT)

The inscription reads:

Parents of Twelve Children. Kentucky Pioneers and settled here in 1808. The multitude of their descendants "rise up to call them blessed".

Joseph and I were certainly blessed and are proud to have so many of our descendants gathered here today.

To continue with the lives of our children I present to you our 1st born child Francis Taylor.

1) FRANCIS TAYLOR CHERRY reenacted by Cherry Beckoner Perkins

I am Frances Taylor the first born child of Joseph & Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. born 1783 in Martin County, North Carolina. I grew up on the Taylor plantation. My grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins were nearby. When I was about 22 I married a widower, William Cherry, Jr. - the year was 1805. William's father was William Cherry, Sr. a Revolutionary War soldier from S.C.

My husband William's first wife was Lottie Hopkins who died quite young leaving 7 children. William and I raised these 7 children as well as our own 10 children that followed.

William and Lottie Hopkins children are:

Obadiah Cherry

Frances "Fanny" Cherry

Jane Cherry

Samuel Cherry. Samuel married my sister Mary Ann Taylor.

Lavina Cherry married Allen Taylor my brother.

Nancy Cherry

John Cherry - is said to have married Delila my mystery sister. No record of their marriage has been found. You will learn more about the mystery of Delilah later when she tell's her story.

William and I lived on the combined 364 acres in Edgecombe Co., N.C. bought from his father William Cherry, Sr. and my father Joseph Taylor, Jr.

William and I moved to Warren County, Ky with my father Joseph and family in 1808. We had two children by that time: Joseph Taylor Cherry age 2 and Allen A. Cherry born just before we left for Kentucky.

Arriving in Kentucky, William purchased land in Warren Co. in Jan. 1809. 150 acres for \$600 on the water of Lost Creek of the Green River. We spent our remaining years on the old homestead near the Gasper River where we raised our family.

Our first child was Joseph Taylor Cherry.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF ONE OF JOSEPH and SALINA'S CHILDREN CAROLINE MATILDA CHERRY - she lived to be 101 years old.

Next came "Allen A. Cherry. Then Frances Cherry, Mary Ann Eliza Cherry, Sarah "Sallie" Cherry, Charlotte "Lottie" Cherry.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF OBADIAH AND CHARLOTTE CHERRY MILAN.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF ONE OF OBADIAH AND CHARLOTTE'S CHILDREN JOHN RICHARD MILAM AND WIFE MESOURI AND THEIR DAUGHTER MERNIE MILAM HUDNALL AND FAMILY.

Our next son was John Cherry followed by George Washington Cherry.

George and Martha Stahl Cherry were the parents of the two famous Cherry Brothers - Dr. Henry Hardin Cherry, 1st president of Western Ky. University here in Bowling Green and Professor Thomas Crittendon Cherry, Supt. of Schools, of Bowling Green and seven other outstanding sons.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF GEORGE WASHINGTON AND MARTHA FRANCIS STAHL CHERRY.

THIS IS PHOTO OF THEIR HOMEPLACE WHICH HAS NOW BURNED.

NEXT WE HAVE A COMPOSITE PICTURE OF THE ORIGINAL LOG CABIN IN CENTER AND PARENTS AND EACH OF THE CHERRY BROTHERS AROUND IT.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF GEORGE AND MARTHA STAHL CHERRY'S GRANDSON DR. WILLIAM B. CHERRY AND A COUSIN MISSY OAKES.

William B. Cherry is still living in Decatur, GA today. He is a son of William Bailey Cherry.

WE HAVE A GOOD PHOTO OF DR. HENRY HARDIN CHERRY OUR GRANDSON, 1ST PRESIDENT OF WESTERN KY. UNIVERSITY.

Lucinda Hurd Cherry is our next child. The last child born to William and I is Bailey Harrison Cherry. Bailey was in the Civil War and served as a Corporal in the 26 Ky. Veteran's Infantry, Company A.

My dear husband William died in the Fall of 1828 here in Warren Co. He was 62. We had been married only 26 years. William is buried at Hall's Chapel Cemetery in Warren County near our old Homestead. I lived on to age 69 dying in the winter of 1852 from a high fever. I am buried at Halls Chapel Cemetery beside my husband William. Many of our children are buried there also.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF HALL'S CHAPEL AND THE CEMETERY.

I am proud to have my Great, Great, Great Grandaughter Cherry Perkins portraying lme tonight.

I now take my leave and bring you my next sister AMY TAYLOR.

ENTER AMY TAYLOR

2) AMY TAYLOR WALLACE

Reenacted by Nelda Wallace Sanders

I am Amy Taylor the second child born to Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. I was born in 1785, in Martin County, North Carolina on the Taylor Plantation. I married John Wallace in 1805 in Edgecombe County., N.C. John is the younger brother of Etheldred Wallace, who married my Aunt Amy Taylor. They were the sons of William Wallace, Jr. and Susannah Exum of Martin Co., N. The Wallace's came from Virginia and before that Scotland.

John and I went to Warren County, Ky. with the Taylor family in 1808. We had two small children by this time: a daughter Amy Wallace, Jr. age 2 and a son Evans Wallace who was about 1 year old.

We settled near my father and sister Francis Taylor Cherry in Warren County where we raised five children.

1) Amy Wallace, Jr. b. Edgecombe County, N.C. died young after 1810 here in Warren County.

2) Evans Wallace our son born in Edgecombe Count, N.C. married Sarah Williams in Stewart County, Tennessee and had five children. His wife Sarah died and Evans married 2) Sally Clark. They had 8 children.

Evans was a member of Quantrill's Guerilla in the Civil War and is said to have had a fiery temper. Frank and Jesse James and the Younger Brothers were members of that gang.

Evans was also kind of a country doctor who took care of many family members and friends. He had a natural gift of healing and would sit up for hours and spend days tending to the sick.

He was a constable and met with a violent death when he was shot in the back and died several days later at Bumpus Mills, Stewart County, Tennessee.

Our next child was named William Wallace for his paternal grandfather William Wallace. He was born here in Warren County, in 1810. William married Lucy Jane Clark in Stewart County, Tennessee and later moved to Trigg County, Ky. They had at least 4 children.

Our son Riley Wallace was born next around 1812 in Warren County.

Then came our son Reuben Wallace in May of 1813. He went to Bumpus Mills, Stewart County, Tenn. and married Martha Manning. HERE IS A PICTURE OF REUBIN AND MARTHA WALLACE.

AND HERE IS A PHOTO OF NATHAN GREEN WALLACE AND FAMILY SON OF REUBEN AND MARTHA WALLACE.

My life on this earth ended after the birth of Reubin. Following my death John and the children moved to Stewart County, Tennessee - living near his parents and brothers. John married 2) Delilah and they had 5 children: Susan, Annie, Caswell, Eaton and Agnes. In 1830 John sold his place in Tennessee and moved his family along with his brothers to Trigg County, Kentucky.

This concludes the story of my life.

I am very pleased to have my Great, Great, Great Grandaughter Nelda Wallace Saunders, present this sketch of my life.

I'm proud now to introduce you to my brother William Taylor who was born after me.

ENTER WILLIAM TAYLOR - Edward Ludloff

3) WILLIAM TAYLOR

Reenacted by Edward Ludloff

Thank you Amy. Yes I am William Taylor, the first son born to Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. I was born 21 March 1787 in Martin County, North Carolina. My full name is William Warren Taylor. I grew up on the Taylor plantation near Coneto Creek. When I was old enough I carried the surveying chain for my father and my grandfather, Joseph Taylor, Sr. measuring the property very carefully for them. I lived in North Carolina until I was 21 years of age, then moved to Warren County, Kentucky.

About the same time our Taylor family settled in Kentucky, a family by the name of John and Elizabeth Kendrick Patrick also settled in Kentucky near us with their 11 children.

I began to court the lovely Elizabeth Patrick. She was 5' 8' tall with sandy hair and blue eyes and called "Betsey". In the Spring of 1811 we were married at the Taylor family cabin. Robert Daughtery a Baptist minister, kin of the Moses Taylor family living near the Gasper River, crossed the river to marry Elizabeth and I.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF OUR HOME IN WARREN COUNTY, KY.

I was a farmer and also had responsibilities in Warren County concerning the roads. Elizabeth and I raised 11 children near Richardsville from 1812 to 1830. Shortly after that time we decided to leave Warren County for the State of Missouri.

Elizabeth and I left Ky. with our 11 children arriving in eastern Missouri, Monroe County around 1830/31 after a very hard journey. This part of Missouri at that time was wilderness, inhabited by Indians and many wild animals - but had beautiful prairies and good timber land.

Ludson Green Patrick, Elizabeth's brother and Levi Turner, Elizabeth's brother-in-law obtained land grants in Monroe County, Missouri in July and October of 1831. We obtained land adjacent to them in November of 1831. We had a fine home consisting of 640 acres of good land.

I was always quite a strong man, standing over 6 feet tall, very pronounced in my views, and a Democrat. I was well-acquainted with the Bible. Elizabeth and I taught our children to also love the Bible and its teaching.

Some missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints came into Monroe county around 1832. I was baptized after hearing only one sermon, and soon after I became an Elder. I believe myself to be the first member of the Church in the State of

Missouri. A branch of the Church, called the Salt River Branch, or the Bowling Green Branch, was organized in Monroe County.

Elizabeth and I moved to Fishing River in Ray County, following uprisings in Jackson County, Mo. against Latter-day Saints.

PICTURE OF THE EXPULSION FROM JACKSON COUNTY, MO.

We bought two good farms and remained till the fall of 1834. We were compelled in connection with other Saints located there to leave our home for which we received nothing and were robbed of \$500 cash, hogs, and much personal property.

We removed to Long Creek, eight miles south of Far West in Clay County in 1835. By 1837 three more children had blessed our home making a total of 14. Seven strong sons and seven lovely daughters now in our family. The family were all present at the laying of the cornerstone of the Temple at Far West. We moved into this city, late in the Fall of 1838 and were compelled to camp in streets. So many of the Saints had gathered here to escape mob violence, that shelter could not be obtained. We arrived at night, and made our beds upon the ground. The snow fell during the night to the depth of ten inches.

We saw the Prophet Joseph Smith surrender himself to the mob and heard the dreadful noise and confusion made by the mob the night following. Elizabeth prepared food and carried it to the brethren who were held as prisoners in the Liberty Jail. While in this condition, some of the mob tried to persuade some of our daughters to go with them, and said unless they did so, they would share the fate of all the Saints of being destroyed. Elizabeth with a poking stick drove them away from her campfire. After the surrender of the city we returned to our home and found that 7,000 of the mob army had camped for 2 nights on our place. The mob had consumed and destroyed our livestock and crops.

On the 8th of February, 1839 we again left our home. We received nothing for our farm. We shared in all the trials and persecutions, through which the Saints had to pass at this time, in being expelled from our homes and the State of Missouri, by order of Governor Boggs. We journeyed hundreds of miles. Much of the time the weather was very bad, having snow, rain, and mud to contend with.

While upon this journey, through exposure I was taken sick and died of fever on the 9th of September 1839. It was probably typhoid. I was buried on the main road between Lima and Warsaw in Hancock County, Illinois on Col. William's land. Col. William boasted of having helped to kill the Prophet Joseph Smith and also threatened to dig up my body and give the same to the hogs. Elizabeth called upon the boys to gather poles of logs and make a fence around my grave and keep a watch to see that my body was not disturbed.

A short time before my death, I called the children to my bedside and counceled them to rally round the Priesthood and the main body of the church; also secured a promise from each of them that they would not marry outside of the Church.

Elizabeth and our family were robbed repeatedly of their possessions until they were very destitute. The Prophet Joseph Smith gave them a lot in the city of Nauvoo south from the temple. On this she built a log house, one and one half story high.

Our son Pleasant Green Taylor well remembered the day he took his mother and sister Sarah to Carthage and saw the jail in which Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum Smith were confined; also saw blood upon the floor. They were present when the bodies of the martyrs were brought to Nauvoo.

Our ten year-old daughter, Amanda Malvina Taylor died in October of 1845 in Nauvoo, Il. before Elizabeth and the family left for the west.

HERE IS A PICTURE OF THE PIONEERS COMING THROUGH THE CANYONS IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

Elizabeth driving her team of oxen headed for the Salt Lake Valley. She proceeded as far as Council Bluffs, Iowa and stayed there for quite awhile. Then in the Spring of 1849 our sons Pleasant Green and Joseph gave a good team to their mother Elizabeth to enable her to go to the Salt Lake Valley.

After arriving in Utah October 1849 Elizabeth lived for a short time in Salt Lake City, after which she moved to be near our son, Pleasant Green Taylor. She settled in the small community known as Harrisville, just north of Ogden in 1851.. Here she lived in peace for the rest of her life. Her grandchildren all loved their Grandmother Taylor, and they took turns seeing that she had firewood, water, and all she needed. They loved to visit her and to hear her tell the stories of her life as a plantation belle in Virginia and North Carolina and raising her family of 14, and pioneering the new frontiers of Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois and Utah.

Elizabeth died in Harrisville on the 25th of October in 1880 just before her 87th birthday. She is buried in the Ogden City Cemetery.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF ELIZABETH'S TOMBSTONE.

Elizabeth and I are proud of our 7 sons and 7 daughters.

HERE IS A PICTURE OF THE CHILDREN EXCEPT FOR MARY ANN AND MELVINA AMANDA.

Our children are:

- 1) John Taylor
- 2) Allen Taylor
- 3) Julia Ann Taylor
- 4) Mary Ann Taylor
- 5) Louisa Taylor
- 6) Elizabeth Ann Taylor
- 7) Sarah Kendrick Best Taylor
- 8) Joseph Taylor

THIS IS A PHOTO OF JOSEPH TAYLOR WEARING A HAT MADE FROM A HANDERCHIEF. HE TIED THE CORNERS OF THE HANKY AND PUT IT ON TOP OF HIS HEAD TO KEEP AWAY THE FLYS - AND WORE IT IN CHURCH I'M TOLD.

- 9) Pleasant Green Taylor

HERE IS A PICTURE OF OUR SON PLEASANT GREEN TAYLOR AND FAMILY AND HIS TOMBSTONE.

- 10) William Warren Taylor
- 11) Levi Taylor
- 12) Nancy Jane Taylor
- 13) Amanda Malvina Taylor
- 14) James Caldwell Taylor

I am proud to have my direct descendant Edward Ludloff present this story of my lifetime.

NOW I WISH TO HAVE YOU MEET MY BROTHER ALLEN TAYLOR.

ENTER ALLEN TAYLOR - REENACTED BY RICHARD G. TAYLOR

4) ALLEN TAYLOR

Re-enacted by Richard G. Taylor

Thank you William - that's a hard act to follow!
Yes, I am Allen Taylor the 4th child and 2nd son of Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. I was born in 1789 in Martin County, North Carolina. I too grew up on the Taylor plantation. I was about 19 years of age when our family moved to Warren County, Ky.

HERE IS A PICTURE OF MYSELF (ALLEN TAYLOR)

I married LaVina Cherry 3 years after arriving in Ky. in the month of February 1811. Lavina, the daughter of William Cherry, Jr. and his first wife Lottie Hopkins, was also the stepdaughter of my sister, Frances Taylor Cherry.

Robert Daugherty, son-in-law to Moses Taylor of the Gasper River Taylors, crossed the Gasper River to marry us - as he had done for my brother William and his wife Elizabeth.

We farmed 92 acres of my fathers land. Excellent springs on the property provided the water we needed. After my brother William left the area about 1830/31 he sold his share of land to our youngest brother Joseph. In October of 1843 Joseph and I drew up an agreement about a new land division of the properties.

I built a large two room, two story log house on the property. We had roses in the yard, catnip, horehound, heal all, sage and a large asparagus bed started from the roots brought from North Carolina.

I want to tell you a funny story about our sons Joseph and Robert when they were about 10 and twelve. The year was about 1842 and I rode to Polkville, Ky and bought a young Negro boy named Jack. He rode behind me on my horse back to our home. Arriving home, Joseph and Robert were burning brush and the smoke had blackened their faces. The young negro boy said, "Goody, Goody, I'll have a little negro boy to play with.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF JACK IN HORSE AND BUGGY

Jack was a faithfull servant. All the children loved him. He was the news dispenser of the neighborhood, could tell funny yarns and loved to eat lots of hot biscuits. Uncle Jack as he was called lived to be 104 years, and was buried at the foot of the Taylor Graveyard with other slaves of that generation.

Lavina and I and our family attended the Green River Union Church where I became a trustee on the first Board of Trustees.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF SOME OF OUR DESCENDANTS LINED UP HOLDING THEIR HORSES.

HERE ARE PICTURES OF SOME OF THEIR CHILDREN:

DR. EVERETT E. AND LIZZIE TAYLOR

DR. WILLIAM H. TAYLOR

ALFRED E. AND JULIA TAYLOR

ALFRED E. AND JULIA TAYLORS DAUGHTER:
LASSIE TAYLOR MOATES AND DAUGHTER LAVAUGHN

Lassie Taylor Moates wrote patriotic and religious music.

11) Joseph Taylor married d Nancy H. Morgan and had 2 children
Joseph and Nancy moved to Beaver Dam, Ohio Co., Ky.

12) Etna Ann Taylor cared for me after her mother Lavina died
in 1853. Etna did not marry and died at the age of 61

I passed on in 1879 and was laid to rest beside my wife in the
Taylor Graveyard.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF MY TOMBSTONE

I am proud to have my direct descendant Richard G. Taylor
present this sketch of my life.

MY SISTER MARY ANN TAYLOR CHERRY/UPTON WILL FOLLOW ME WITH THE
HISTORY OF HER FAMILY.

pages 174/18 missing

2020 March 31

Lavina and I raised a large and noble family of 8 sons and 4 daughters all born in Warren County, Ky.

They are:

1) William and Frances Davenport Taylor had 3 children. He died here in Warren County.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF WILLIAM CHERRY TAYLOR OUR FIRST SON, AND HIS WIFE FRANCES ELIZABETH DAVENPORT.

2) Aaron Taylor never married. He died at age 42.

3) Henry H. Taylor married 1) Louisa Anna Renfro and had 5 children before she died in child birth bearing twin daughters which survived. Henry married 2) Nancy Lewis. Henry died in Warren County and is buried at the Taylor Graveyard

4) Tabitha Taylor died in 1837 , almost 22 and unmarried. She is buried at the Taylor Graveyard.

5) Alfred Taylor married Caroline Matilda Davenport and had 3 children. One son John LaRue Taylor became a medical doctor and surgeon.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF ALFRED AND CAROLINE TAYLOR

6) Frances Taylor also known as "Frankie" died at age 19 unmarried. She is buried at the Taylor Graveyard.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF DR JOHN LARUE AND ALICE'S HOME.

7) Sarah Jane Taylor married Joseph Davenport and had 3 children. She is buried at the Taylor Graveyard.

8) Samuel Dawson Taylor married Elizabaeth Raymer. They moved to Perry County, Illinois, then Crawford County , Kansas, and lastly Los Angeles, CA where they died. They had 5 children.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF SAMUEL D. AND ELIZABETH RAYMER

9) John Allen Taylor married nancy Basham and had 5 children. They moved to Perry County, Il.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF JOHN ALLEN TAYLOR AND WIFE NANCY IN FRONT OF THEIR HOME IN CARLINVILLE, IL.

10) Robert Benjamin Franklin Taylor married Sarah Ann Goode and had 7 children, two sons became doctors. He and Sarah Ann are buried at the Taylor Graveyard.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF SARAH ANN GOODE TAYLOR

- 6) SERAPHY TEMPERANCE TAYLOR b. 1793 Edgecombe Co., N.C. -
d. ca 1831-1844 "Smarts Prairie
Jarvis Twp. Madison Co., Il.)

Re-enacted by H. Jane Smith

I was born 1793 to Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr., their 6th child and 4th daughter. I was named SERAPHY (Serefy) TEMPERANCE TAYLOR. My name was not always easy to live up to although, I did my best. Seraphy means angelic and Temperance, the quality of self-restraint. I was known as Temperance Taylor and affectionately called "Temy". Some records show I was born in Virginia, I do not remember. The record of my exact birthdate and place of birth have been lost.

My childhood was spent in North Carolina. I was 15 when I came to Warren County, Ky. with my parents, sisters and brothers and settled near Richardsville, Ky.

Five years after we arrived in Kentucky I knew the man I would marry. A young soldier named WILEY SMART. He was born in Edgecombe Co, N.C. in 1789 and like the Taylor's came to Ky. from N.C. with his parents, LABAN SMART and SUSANNAH SIMMONS.

Wiley came from a family of patriots starting with his grandfather Peter Smart who served in the French and Indian War and the Revolutionary War. Wiley's father Laban Smart and Uncle Amos Smart served in the Revolutionary War also. Wiley volunteered in Warren County, Ky. on the 1st day of May 1812 in the War with Great Britain for a term of 6 months and served with Captain Stewarts Co., Kentucky. Milita.

I was 20 and Wiley was 24 when father signed the consent for our marriage. We had a lovely Spring wedding on the 4th of April 1813, right here in Warren Co. with family and good neighbors gathered to share our wedding day with us.

Two years later our first child AMY SMART was born here in Warren County the year being 1815. The following year we were blessed with another daughter, and named her SARAH SMART after mother.

This same year that our daughter Sarah was born (1816) we prepared for our move to the Illinois country. We said our farewells to mother and father and my brothers, sisters and friends. We would probably not see most of them again in our lifetime.

We set out with Wiley's parent's and all of Wiley's brothers and sisters except for his oldest brother Alsey Smart and a sister Katherine.

5) MARY ANN TAYLOR CHERRY/UPTON re-enacted by Gail Stahl Watts

My name is Mary Ann Taylor, the fifth child of Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. I was about 17 when we left Edgecombe County, North Carolina for Warren County, Kentucky.

A few years after we arrived in Warren County I married Samuel Cherry in 1813. Samuel was the son of William Cherry, Jr. and Lottie Hopkins. Samuel's father William Cherry, Jr. later married Frances Taylor my older sister.

Samuel and I had one child together named Alfred Cherry he was born on Christmas day 1813.

Samuel died at a young age from a accident leaving me with a young son to raise.

In August of 1826 I married Elijah Upton a widower. We started our married life with seven children. My son Alfred Cherry was 12 at the time the same age as Elijah's oldest daughter Rachel Upton.

Elijah's first wife Elizabeth Ford died in childbirth, leaving 6 children ranging in age from 12 to a newborn son.

Elijah was a farmer. He had been a soldier in the War of 1812 and was distinguished for his intrepidity in the Battle of the Thames on Lake Erie in 1813. He received at least four land grants totaling 350 acres between the Green and Barren River in Warren County.

Elijah was an original member of the Board of Trustees of the Green River Union Meetinghouse. The Masonic Lodge at Richardsville is named for him.

We had no children together. We were married for 26 years and lived near my fathers land. I died in August of 1852 at Warren County, Ky age 61, from hemorrhage of the lungs - very sudden. I was buried at the Taylor Graveyard next to Elizabeth Ford Upton.

When Elijah died 10 years later, August 1862 he was buried beside his two wives at the Taylor Graveyard.

My son Alfred Cherry married Sarah "Sallie" Miller and had 7 children. Alfred's step-father Elijah Upton loved him like his own son, and gave an equal share of his estate to Alfred.

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU NOW TO MY SISTER SERAPHY TEMEPANCE TAYLOR

Our daughters Amy and Sarah had several Aunts and Uncles to help care for them on the long trek to Illinois. We crossed the prairie and located in Jarvis and Pinoak Twp. of Madison County, Illinois. These townships were about half timber at the time. Illinois was then a territory and become a state two years after we arrived in 1818.

THIS MAP OF ILLINOS SHOWS THE COUNTY OF MADISON WHICH WE SETTLED IN.

We found the prairies open and fertile for farming with many good streams of water. Game was abundant and sustained us until we were able to put crops in the following year.

So many of the Smart Family settled in this section of Madison Co. that it became known as "Smarts Prairie".

The years to follow were good to us bringing us 4 sons and 3 daughters born at Smart's Prairie in Madison County: Henry Green, Lucinda, Peter, Martha, Allen Taylor, Mary Ann and William.

The year 1819 brought the death of my father Joseph Taylor, Jr. It had only been 3 years since we had said our goodbyes and come to Illinois. Fathers will read, "I give to my daughter Tempy Smart a good two year old heifer, and a small pot."

I had only a few years remaining on Smart's Prairie after the birth of our last child William. By 1844 I was gone from this earth. I was probably buried in the Smart Family Cemetery on the land we settled on. No record or monument has been located to date.

The old Smart Family Cemetery was quite large at one time. The last known owner of the property removed the markers, used them for stepping stones and cultivated the ground of the graveyard for his crops.

My husband Wiley Smart was in need of a wife. Our older daughters were married and having families of their own.

On the 23 of July 1844 Wiley married Elizabeth Hignight. Elizabeth Hignight Smart had 9 children from her first marriage. Elizabeth hands were kept very busy caring for this combined family of Hignight and Smart children.

Wiley had one more son born to him and Elizabeth Hignight Smart. He was named ALEXANDER WILEY SMART.

Wiley applied for bounty land in April, 1855 for his service in the War of 1812. He died 24th of October 1855 and the 120 acre Military lot was received by his widow Elizabeth Hignight. Elizabeth died the following year. Wiley is believed buried beside me at the Smart Family Cemetery, Madison Co., Il. but no record or monument has been found.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF ALLEN TAYLOR SMART OUR SON HE WAS QUITE HANDSOME MAN.

THIS IS A PHOTO OF ALLEN TAYLOR SMART AND HIS 3RD WIFE CATHERINE COMPTON CARROT IN THEIR LATER YEARS.

This is all I am able to tell you about my life and our family today. Hopefully my gr. gr. gr. granddaughter, Harriet Jane Barnes Smith who is presenting this sketch of my life today will be able to learn more about the family as time goes on.

NOW I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MY SISTER NANCY ANN TAYLOR

JS:js
8/15/93
SMART.Tem

7. NANCY TAYLOR - reenacted by Stephanie Griffin Scott

Thank you Tempy. I am the seventh child of Joseph Taylor, Jr. and Sarah Best. I was born about 1797 in Edgecombe County, North Carolina. When I was 11 years old I made the long trip with my parents and family from North Carolina to Warren County, Kentucky. I died 2 February 1812, almost grown. No grave stone exists at the Taylor graveyard for me, but I must have been buried there.

Dying in my teens, I did not get to know this wonderful Taylor Family any longer.

Now I want you to meet my next younger sister Sarah Best Taylor.

8) SARAH BEST TAYLOR HUDNALL

re-enacted by Rolena Maxey Greathouse

I am Sarah Best Taylor, the 8th child of Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. born 5 January 1800 Edgecombe County, North Carolina. I was called "Sally" and named for my mother. I grew up on the Taylor Plantation and was about 8 years old when our family moved to Kentucky.

Growing up near Richardsville on the Taylor land I met Rene Chastain Hudnall. He was a handsome man, and we grew to love one another. We were married in the summer on the 7th of June 1821. Rene's father was James Hudnall who started the Green River Union Church. The first services were held in the Hudnall home in 1816. Rene's mother was Rhodah Chastain the daughter of Rev. Rene Chastain and his Wife Martha Isham and a direct descendant of Pierre Chastain, the French Huguenot Emigrant.

As the years passed we became parents of 12 children 6 sons and six daughters named: James, Nancy, Elizabaeth, Joseph, Irven, William, Mary Jane, Sarah Frances, Polly Ann, John, and Sidnia Ann.

At age 37 I passed on the year was 1838. I was buried at the Hudnall Cemetery.

Our son William C. Hudnall, was raised by my sister Charlotte Taylor and William Lawson White and our son Isham C. Hudnall was raised by my sister Elizabeth Ann Taylor and Samuel Venable Goode.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF MAUD LUCILLE MAXEY ELIZABETH AND JOHN MAXEY'S DAUGHTER. SHE WAS VERY PRETTY!

HERE IS A PHOTO OF SIDNIA ANN OUR YOUNGEST DAUGHTER AND AUGUSTINE COLVIN.

ALSO A PHOTO OF SIDNIA'S SON AUGUSTINE AND WIFE ROSETTA COLVIN.

About 4 years after my death my beloved husband Rene Chastain Hudnall married Leah Carroll and continued to raise our children as well as four more born to him and Leah. Leah Carroll Hudnall died in 1869 and Rene died 2 years later.

This concludes the memories I have of my family. Now I want you to meet my brother Joseph Taylor who with his wife Polly Ann Hudnall raised my 1 year old daughter Sidnia Ann Hudnall after my death.

I am proud to have Rolena Maxey Greathouse portray me tonight a direct descendanet of mine through Elizabeth Hudnall Maxey.

ENTER JOSEPH TAYLOR III

9) JOSEPH BEST TAYLOR

Re-enacted by Roger W. Thomas

Thank you Sarah. I am the ninth child born to Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. I was born 10 September 1801 in Edgecombe County, North Carolina. I don't remember too much about our home in North Carolina. I was about 6 years old when we left for Warren County, Kentucky. The James and Rhodah Chastain Hudnall, Jr. family were close friends and neighbors of our Taylor family. They had a lovely daughter named Polly Ann who became my wife in January of 1821 in Warren County. Polly's brother Rene Chastain Hudnall married my sister Sarah Best Taylor.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF MYSELF. (JOSEPH BEST TAYLOR) IN MY YOUNGER DAYS I STOOD OVER 6' TALL. POLLY THOUGHT I WAS QUITE HANDSOME!

We attended the Green River Union Church, which her father 1st organized in their home. Polly was a registered midwife and helped bring many babies into the world. We were blessed with 13 children all born here in Warren County: 1) Thomas Best, 2) James Wesley, 3) Rhoda Chastain, 4) Nicholas Wren, 5) Sarah Best (named for Mother) 6) Paradine, 7) William Allen, 8) Aaron, 9) Tabitha, 10) Mary Ann and 11) Joseph Irvin Taylor.

Three of our sons served in the Civil War: Thomas, James, and Joseph.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF THOMAS BEST TAYLOR.

1) Thomas was shot in the arm accidentally by his own men while returning from a patrol and died as a result of the wound.

HERE ARE PHOTOS OF THEIR TWO CHILDREN:

REVEREND WILLIAM IRVIN TAYLOR
JOSEPH NICHOLAS TAYLOR

2) Our next son is James Wesley Taylor.

THIS IS A PHOTO OF HIM (JAMES WESLEY TAYLOR)

James was in the battle of Shiloh. He was captured and sent to Libby prison near Richmond Virginia - then to Andersonville Prison for a total of 16 1/2 months.

HERE ARE PHOTOGRAPHS OF SOME OF THEIR CHILDREN:

ATWOOD TAYLOR AND WIFE LYDIA
HENRY ALLEN TAYLOR
JAMES NEWTON TAYLOR AND WIFE NORA ELLEN

HERE IS A PHOTO OF LOUISA ELLEN WHALEN TAYLOR - JAMES WESLEY TAYLOR'S 2ND WIFE.

THIS IS A PHOTO OF ONE OF JAMES 7 LOUISA ELLEN TAYLOR'S CHILDREN, FRED W. TAYLOR AT HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY.

4) HERE IS A PICTURE OF NICHOLAS WREN TAYLOR AND 2 OF HIS HOMES WITH FAMILY.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF JULIA ANN COLE TAYLOR AND FAMILY (WIFE OF NICHOLAS WREN TAYLOR).

THIS IS A PICTURE OF ONE OF THEIR CHILDREN JAMES ALFRED TAYLOR AND WIFE BERTHA YOXALL.

5) HERE IS A PICTURE OF SHADRACK AND SARAH BEST TAYLOR DAVENPORT.

Sarah Best Taylor Davenport was a spinner an weaver. Some of the fabric that Sarah Best wove has been saved by the family.

HERE IS A PICTURE OF SPINNING WHEELS WITH SARAH BEST TAYLOR DAVENPORT AND HER SISTERS PARADINE TAYLOR BASHAM AND TABITHA TAYLOR OTTEY.

HERE IS A PICTURE OF ONE OF THEIR SONS JOSEPH FORTUNATUS DAVENPORT AND WIFE SARAH FRANCES YOUNG.

6) HERE IS HER PICTURE (PARADINE TAYLOR) OUR SIXTH CHILD.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF PARADINE WITH HER SON BARTLETT AND HIS DAUGHTER.

9) HERE IS A PHOTO OF OUR DAUGHTER IS TABITHA H. TAYLOR

11) Our son Joseph Irvin Taylor grew to be about 6 feet 2 inches tall. He was a Civil War Soldier in the Union Army. He served under Grant at the Battle of Shiloh and with General Sherman until after the fall of Atlanta.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF JOSEPH AND HIS WIFE MARY S. MILLER WITH A GRANDSON JOHN.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF THEIR SON JOSEPH LUTHER TAYLOR AND WIFE ETHEL WITH SON JOHN.

My dear wife Polly Ann Hudnall Taylor died at the old homestead near Richardsville in 1845. She was only 40 years old. She was buried at the Hudnall Cemetery in Warren County. Our 11 children at the time ranged in age from 3 to 21 years.

On a wintery day in December of 1849 I married Sarah Elizabeth Rone (Burchfield) in Butler County. Sarah was a widow, previously married to Meshack Burchfield. Sarah had 7 children, two were married and on their own - giving us 16 children under the roof of the old homestead.

Sarah still had room in her heart to take in 1 year old Sidnia Ann Hudnall, daughter of my sister Sarah Best Taylor Hudnall who had died.

Sarah and I also had two sons:

12) Newton Rone Taylor

and

13) William A. Taylor who only lived 1 day.

I passed on in August of 1864, almost 63 and am buried at the Hudnall Cemetery here in Warren County. My dear wife Sarah Elizabeth Rone Burchfield Taylor died 3 years later and is buried at the John Rone Cemetery.

Joseph Best Taylor was my Great Great Grandfather.

Now I want you to meet my sister Elizabeth Ann Taylor.

10) ELIZABETH ANN TAYLOR GOODE

Re-encated by Martha "Ellen" Deemer Buchanon

Thank you Joseph. Yes, I am Elizabeth Ann Taylor, the tenth child of Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. I was born 10 September 1803 in Edgecombe County, North Carolina and called "Betsey". I lived on the Taylor Plantation for only five years before our parents and the rest of our family moved to Warren County, Kentucky. I remember very little about our former home in North Carolina.

I grew up on the old Taylor homestead in Warren County. When I was 26 I married Samuel Venable Goode. Samuel was 38 and lived near the Smith's Grove area of Warren County.

Samuel and I raised nine children. We lost three little daughters when they were very young. We also cared for and raised Isham Hudnall. He was the son of Sarah Best Taylor Hudnall, my sister who had died.

Samuel was a soldier in the War of 1812. He served under General William Henry Harrison at the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811 against the Shawnee Indians.

My husband was a man of many talents. He was a teacher and a farmer as was his father. Samuel served as a magistrate in Warren County, and was the census taker in 1850 in our section. He also worked as a boatman, taking produce to market down the Green, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans.

Our nine children all born in Warren County, Ky. are:

1) Sarah Ann Goode (HERE IS HER PICTURE)

2) Our son William Alfred Goode became a doctor.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF MARRY-ETTA GOODE, SARAH AND ROBERTS DAUGHTER. SHE WAS A VERY BEAUTIFUL LADY.

3) Our daughter Mary Ann Goode died when she was only two weeks old.

4) Next came Louisa Venable Goode.

5) Son Henry Allen Goode born served in the Civil War as a Union Soldier.

6) Elizabeth Caroline Goode was our next child. She was almost two years old when she died.

7) Susan Frances Goode was born in the Spring. She was only one year old when she died.

8) Our 8th daughter was Martha Jane Goode .

9) Samuel Venable Goode, Jr. our last child was a Union Soldier in the Civil War.

I passed on in 1861 at the age of 57. Samuel followed me 11 years later in 1862. We are both buried at the Mt. Zion Church Cemetery near Brown's Lock northwest of Richardsville.

I am pleased to have my Great Great, Great Granddaughter Ellen Buchanon here portraying me tonight.

NOW I WANT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO MY MYSTERY SISTER DELIAH

ENTER DELILAH

11) DELILAH TAYLOR re-enacted by Joyce Lilly

My name is Delilah and I am the mystery child. I know you have all been waiting to hear from me. I will now tell you what the mystery is.

I am the purported 11th child of Joseph Taylor and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. born around 1804 at Edgecombe County, N.C.

The earliest known source of the existence of "Delilah Taylor" is the "1910 Taylor Family Reunion Record". I am mentioned therein as a child of Joseph Taylor, Jr. and Sarah Best. The record also stated that I married Dred Wallace, which is obviously an error.

An explanation of the current challenge has to begin with some research that was conducted in the 1950's by two excellent family genealogist, Gilbert Knickerbocker Evans of Walnut Creek, California and Jesse L. Warner of Murray, Utah; along with early Warren County Genealogist, Nora Young Ferguson.

PHOTO OF NORA YOUNG FERGUSON

Nora Ferguson worked with a Professor Saunders, then employed at Litchfield High School in Girard, Macoupin County, Illinois also with Mrs. Russell B. Gordon, 2nd great-granddaughter of Delilah Cherry. Together they compiled information on a family group record.

Professor Saunders convinced the others that Delilah (b. 1806 in Tennessee), daughter of Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, was married to John Cherry and had the following children:

- 1) John W.
- 2) Thomas Calhoun
- 3) Mary
- 4) Lavinia
- 5) Sarah
- 6) John Berry
- 7) Martha
- 8) Jemima
- 9) James
- 10) Elizabeth

While this record caused some concern because no existing record indicates that Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. lived for a time in Tennessee, the research team seemed confident that the family group record was correct.

Brian L. Taylor of Farr West, Utah, did further research on children in this family and their descendants in Macoupin and Greene Counties, Illinois until he was able to make contact with two living descendants and obtain additional information from each of them.

On 3 July 1993, 2 1/2 months ago a descendant of Delilah Cherry's daughter, and fifth child Sarah Cherry Bristow - Kay Stein of Seattle, Washington, phoned Brian Taylor and indicated that she had documented evidence that Delilah was married to James Harvey Cherry, Sr., then later had a Separation Agreement in which several of the same children mentioned previously were named. Kay indicated that she had no documents which proved that Delilah's surname was even "Taylor".

Of course we want to find correct information, so for the time being no genealogical data on this family will be included in the Taylor History. In case our information contains errors, we do not want those to be copied and perpetuated by information seekers.

THIS IS A PHOTO OF DELILAH CHERRY.

One interesting comment seems appropriate; when a photo of Delilah Cherry was located, one of the researchers commented on her Taylor family resemblance. On the other hand, it has bothered researchers that the birth date of this Delilah Cherry was in March of 1802, according to her tombstone record and her obituary. This would be a problem, since Joseph Best Taylor son of Joseph and Sarah Best Taylor, Jr. was born in September 1801. Only six months apart. Seems impossible. Also, the fact that Delilah Cherry was left off the Will of Joseph Taylor, Jr. She would have been a young girl, and researchers can see no reason why Joseph would have left her off.

Early Tennessee records are being scrutinized by Kay Stein to determine if in fact a Taylor connection exists. We invite our Taylor/Cherry family to help. I would like to thank Brian Taylor for his continuous efforts in genealogy researach in my behalf.

After meeting everyone here today I certainly hope I am a member of this great family.

NOW I WANT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO CHARLOTTE TAYLOR WHOM I HOPE IS MY SISTER.

ENTER CHARLOTTE TAYLOR WHITE

12) CHARLOTTE TAYLOR WHITE

- reenacted by Sheila Drake Griffin

I am the twelfth and last child of Joseph Taylor, Jr. and Sarah Best. Born on the 8th of October 1805 at Edgecombe County, I was about 2 1/2 years of age when our family left North Carolina. My nickname is "Lottie"!

Growing up on the Taylor home place near Richardsville I became well acquainted with William Lawson White son of William and Margaret Maxey. It was fall when mother gave the consent for our marriage. On a beautiful fall day in 1823 William Lawson White and I were married here in Warren County. He was 22 and I was 18.

We farmed 265 acres on the Barren river near the mouth of Little muddy Creek in Warren County.

My William was a very ingenious man. He dammed a spring and used a crude turbine to force the water through a pipe up into the yard. This was in 1850.

Thirteen children were born to us right here in Warren County. Hezekiah, Mary Ann, Sarah, William Allen, Samuel David, John, Chesterfield, Margaret Jane, Houston, Cynthia, Joseph, Morgan, and Melvina.

HERE IS A FAMILY PICTURE WITH SOME OF HEZEKIAH AND MARY ANN ELIZABETH HUDNALL WHITE'S CHILDREN.

HERE IS A PHOTO OF Samuel David White and one of his sons Alonzo Pleasant White and their family.

Our son JOHN H. WHITE was born in 1834. He was a Civil War soldier for the Union with Company A, 11th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry.

Our son HOUSTON C. WHITE was born 14 December 1838. He was a Civil War soldier for the Union in Company A, 11th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry. He served in the battle at Stones River and was shot there. He died a little later at his home as a result of his injury.

I passed on at age 61 in June of 1867, a couple years after the terrible Civil War ended. I was buried at the Maxey Graveyard which is on top of a bluff at Stone Creek here in Warren County. After my death my dear husband William married 2) Martha J. Tarrence (Jones). She was a widow. They had 2 children. William died in 1876 and was buried near me at the Maxey Graveyard.

This concludes the history of my brothers and sisters and their families.

I am proud to have my great, great, great granddaughter Sheila Drake Girffin portray me tonight.

Before we leave you our father Joseph Taylor, Jr. would like to speak to you once more.

ENTER; JOSEPH TAYLOR, JR. - Noel Taylor

JOSEPH TAYLOR, JR.

By: Noel Taylor

(Closing comments after Charlotte Taylor White.)

(Joseph raises his arms and invites the children to gather around him and Sarah for the closing.)

Thank you children. Sarah and I are very proud of each of you and your accomplishments, and contributions to a new generation.

We are also proud of the generations that have gathered here today.

As you know I fought for independence in the war of the American Revolution. Before we leave Sarah and I want to present a roster of thirty-four Taylor family members who have served their country in the War of 1812, The Black Hawk War, and The Civil War.

(Joseph and Sarah read names alaternately.)

Bailey Harrison Cherry
James Wesley Taylor
James R. Hosey
Houston C. White
Obadiah Milam
Capt. Thomas Jefferson Cherry
Evans Wallace
George Samuel Wallace
Pink Wallace
Benoni Williams
James Thomas Hudnall
John M. Maxey
William Sylvester Young
Samuel Venable Goode, Jr.
Shadrack Goren "Pete" Davenport
James Hobson Ottey, Jr.
Dr. George Henderson Milligan

Thomas Best Taylor
Joseph Irvin Taylor
Commodore Burchfield
John H. White
John Richardson Milam
Allen Taylor Smart
William Henry Wallace
Madison Monroe "Matt" Wallace
Dossie Vick
James Henry Smith
William W. Maxey
Hiram Simmons Basham
Henry Allen Goode
Benjamin Price Stahl
Benjamin D. Lankford
J. William Milligan
John L. Norris

I am proud to have my direct descendant portray me at this gathering of the Taylor Family today.

May God bless you till we meet again.

The "Living History of Joseph & Sarah Best Taylor, Jr." will be presented in this order:

- I. Joseph Taylor, Jr. by Noel Taylor
(descendant of William Taylor)
265 E. 9060 South
Sandy, UT 84093
- II. Sarah Best Taylor by Blanche Murphy McGhie
(descendant of William Taylor)
960 Donner Way #150
Salt Lake City, UT 84108
- 1) Frances Taylor Cherry by Cherry Beckoner Perkins
(direct descendant of
Frances Taylor Cherry)
717 Josephine Avenue
Bowling Green, Ky. 42010
- 2) Amy Taylor Wallace by Nelda Wallace Saunders
(direct descendant of
Amy Taylor Wallace)
660 Old 79 Hwg.
Dover, Tn 37058
- 3) William Taylor by Edward Ludloff
(direct descendant of
William Taylor)
6516 Rendina St.
Long Beach, CA 90815
- 4) Allen Taylor by Richard G. Taylor
(direct descendant
of Allen Taylor)
6491 Perry Creek Road
Somerset, CA 95684
- 5) Mary Ann Taylor Cherry/ Upton by Gail Stahl Watts
(Taylor descendant)
464 Larmon Mill Rd.
Bowling Green, Ky 42101
- 6) Seraphy Temperance Taylor Smart by H. Jane Smith
(direct descendant of
Seraphy Temperance Taylor Smart)
817 Murray Ave.
Elgin, Il 60123-3407
- 7) Nancy Taylor by Stephanie Griffin Scott
(Taylor descendant)
mailed to: Spencer Drake
807 Josephine
Bowling Green, Ky. 42010
Phone: 502-843-8302

The Joseph Taylor, Sr family association

- 8) Sarah Best Taylor Hudnall by Rolena Maxey Greathouse
(direct descendant of Sarah Best
Taylor Hudnall)
2209 Bethel lane
Bowling Green, Ky. 42103
- 9) Joseph Best Taylor by Roger W. Thomas
(direct descendant of
Joseph Best Taylor)
1718 Harrogate Rd.
Lexington, KY 40505
- 10) Elizabeth Ann Taylor Goode by Martha Ellen Deemer Buchanon
(direct descendant of
Elizabeth Ann Taylor Goode)
801 Huntington
Bowling Green, Ky 42101
- 11) Delilah Taylor Cherry by Joyce Lilly
(descendant of Williamm)
3155 Hawthorne Ave.
Ogden, UT 84408
- 12) Charlotte Taylor White by Sheila Drake Griffin
(Taylor descendant)
mailed to Spencer Drake
807 Josephine
Bowling Green, Ky. 42101
Phone: 502-843-8302

Closing comments: Joseph Taylor, Jr. Noel Taylor