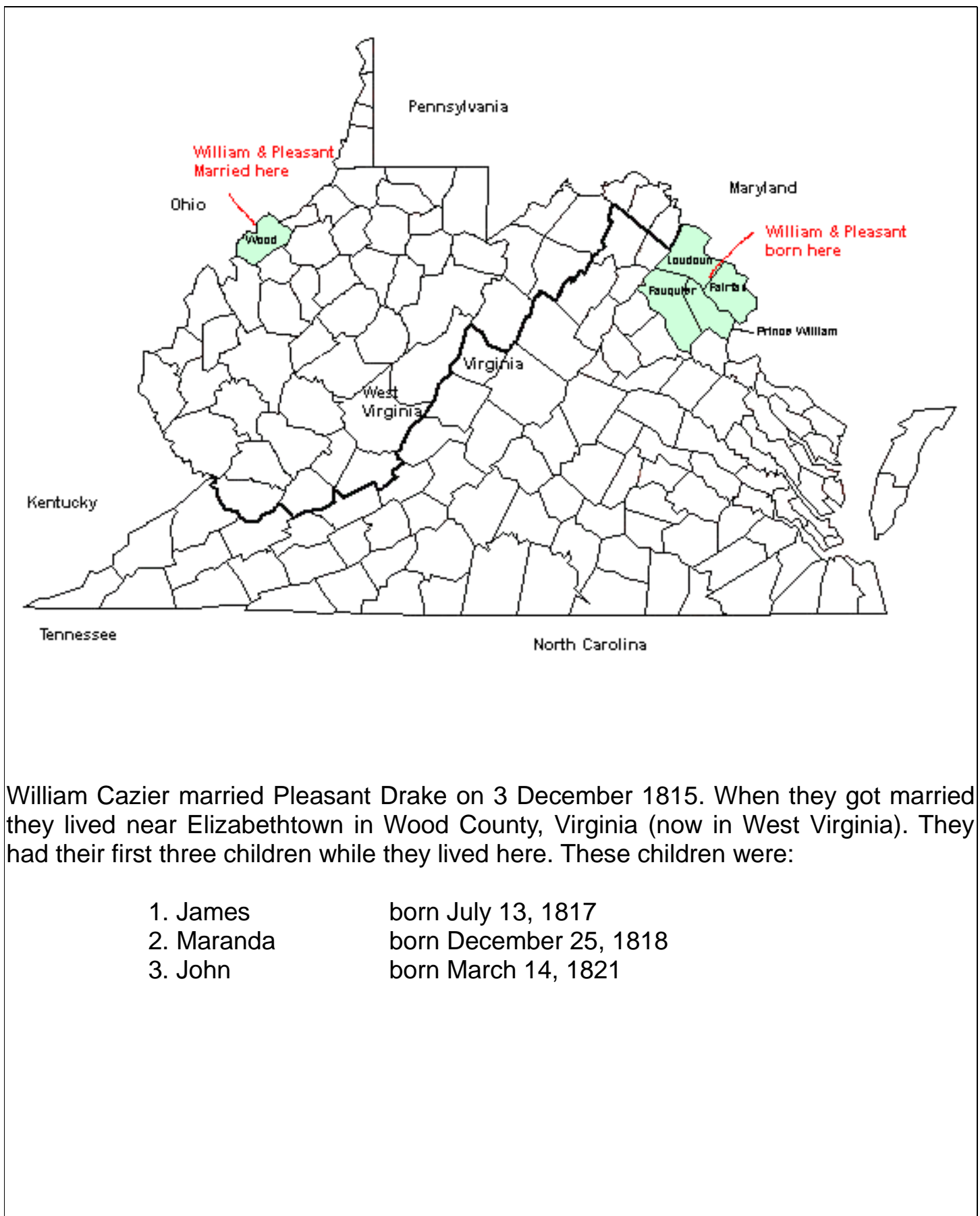


William Cazier and Pleasant Drake Family



The First Cazier Family Converts to The LDS Church

A Story Book to Color Researched & Designed
by Carol Cazier Reynolds, 2014



William Cazier married Pleasant Drake on 3 December 1815. When they got married they lived near Elizabethtown in Wood County, Virginia (now in West Virginia). They had their first three children while they lived here. These children were:

- | | |
|------------|------------------------|
| 1. James | born July 13, 1817 |
| 2. Maranda | born December 25, 1818 |
| 3. John | born March 14, 1821 |

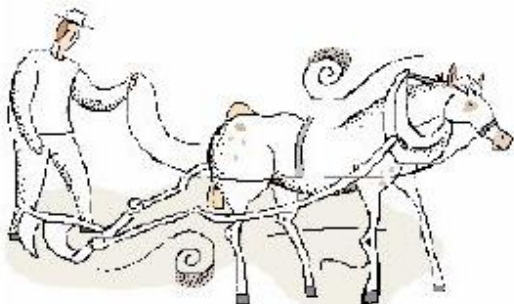
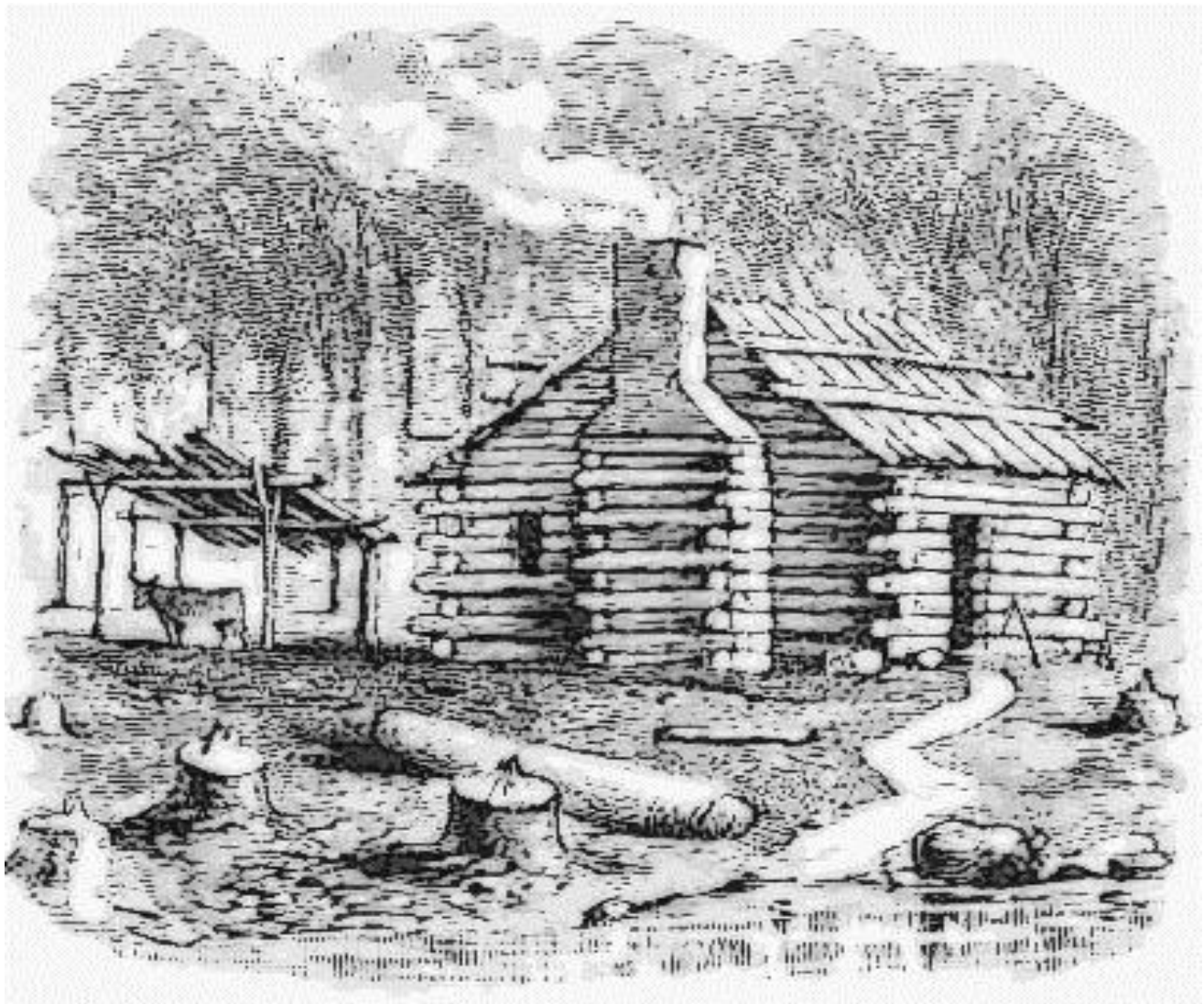


Later they moved to Brownsboro (near Elizabethtown) in Oldham County, Kentucky, where they had seven more children. Their names were:

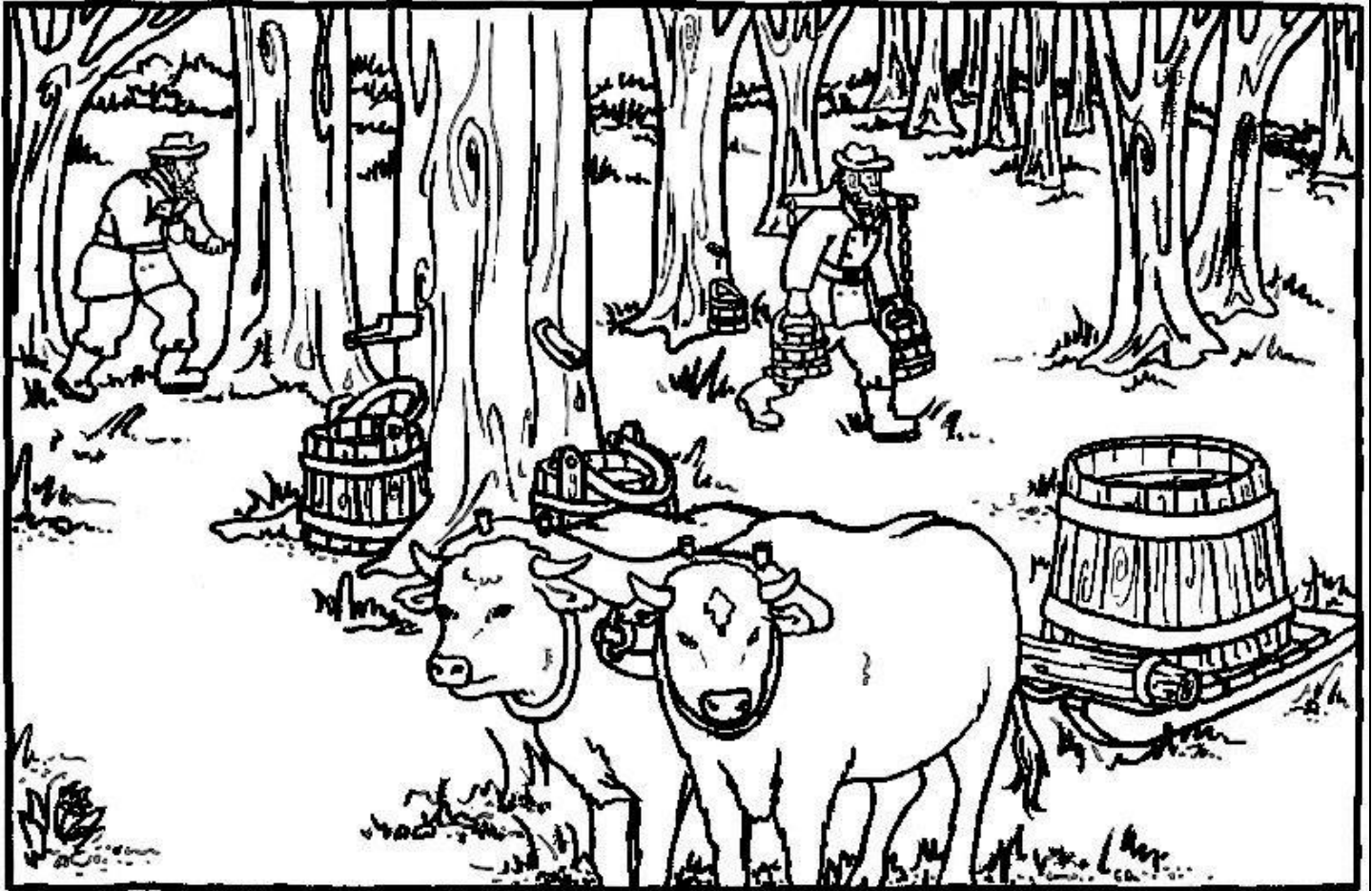
- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 4. Benjamin | born January 14, 1824 |
| 5. William, Jr. | born April 29, 1826 (died about age 9) |
| 6. Elizabeth | born February 1, 1829 |
| 7. Samuel | born August 14, 1831 |
| 8. David Crockett | born May 1, 1834 |
| 9. Charles Drake | born January 21, 1837 |
| 10. Rosanna | born August 26, 1840 |

David describes where they lived when he was born:

"I was born in a log cabin by a little spring in the middle of a large field. From there my father moved about half a mile and lived in a better house on a rented farm belonging to one Isaac Smith. It was on this farm that my memory begins. . . . it was here that I lived till I was about seven years old."



"Now that part of Kentucky at least was thickly wooded and a great variety of wild fruits and nuts and oh what a field of pleasure for boys, to tap maple trees and make molasses or syrup, to hunt the game and gather the popos, black berries, raspberries, may appals, black walnuts, hickory nutts, beech and lack berry nutts."



"Our house was about a mile from Brown's Burough and I ust to go there to buy candy . . ."

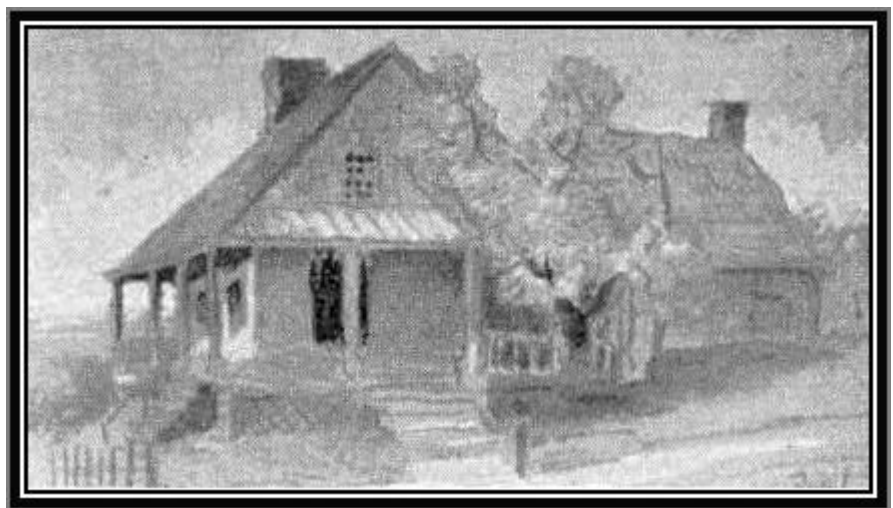
[David Crockett Cazier – Journal]

While they were living in Brownsboro their little boy William Cazier, Jr. died at the age of almost 9½ years old. At this time the family attended the Baptist Church and it may be that he was buried in the Harrod's Creek Baptist Church Cemetery which was near their farm.



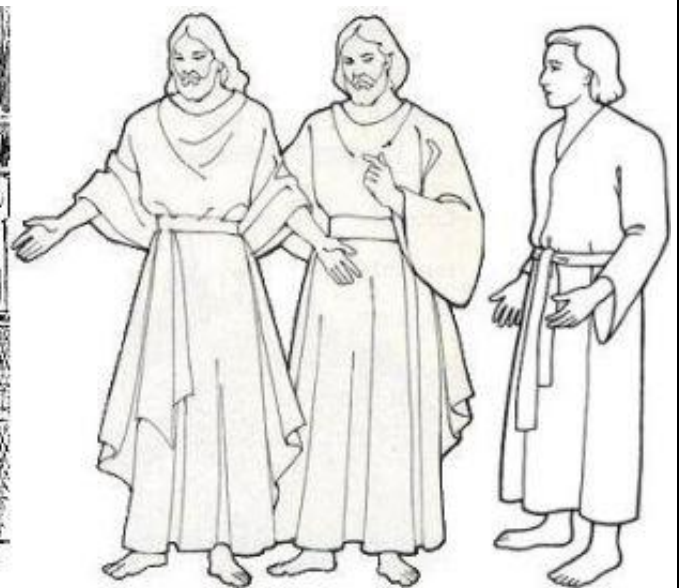
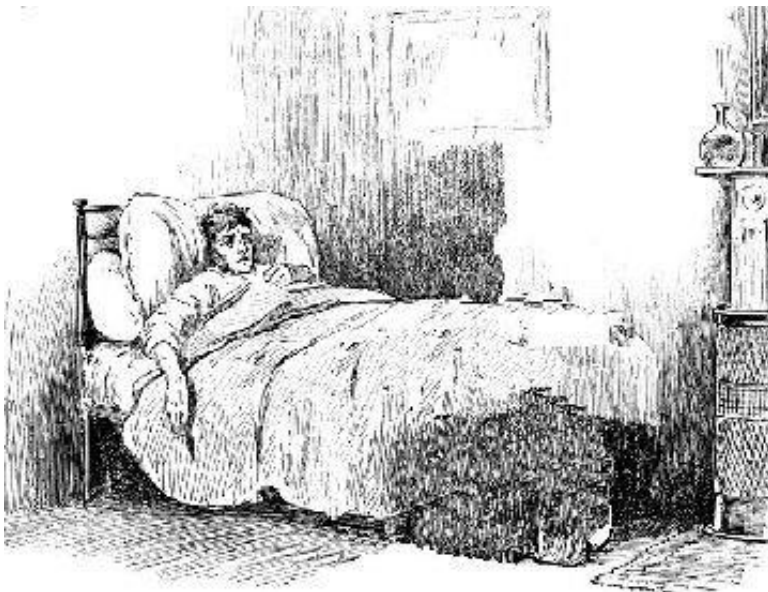
In 1841 the family next moved near Lovington in Moultrie County, Illinois, and rented a tavern for four years while William built a home for them. The name of the tavern was the "Black Horse Tavern." They rented rooms to travelers, and served them meals, and kept their horses in a stable for them. The stage coaches also stopped at the "Black Horse Tavern" so that the passengers could eat and stay over until the next day. The whole family worked together to take care of the guests and the tavern as well as their farm.

William and the boys spent time on the farm hoeing corn and doing chores. They were very busy and there was not much time for going to school. The children did go to school a little and learned to read and write and also to do arithmetic.



While they were living in Illinois the missionaries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints came to visit at their house. They held meetings here and preached the Gospel to everyone who would come. William and his family began to believe what they had to say.

In the fall of 1844 William became very sick and had to stay in bed. While lying in bed he had a vision in which three holy persons appeared to him. They stood at the foot of his bed and told him that the Mormon Church was the only true church on earth and that he should join it.



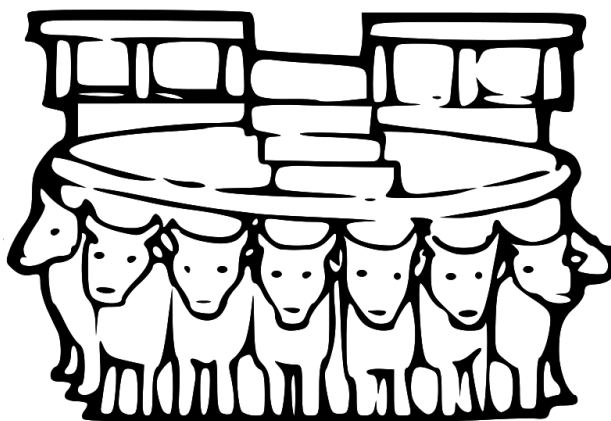
When William got well a few days later he and his wife, Pleasant, were baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, on August 18, 1844.



Others of their family got baptized later, some after coming to Utah:

1. James Cazier	baptized 6 May 1845 – age 27½
2. Maranda Cazier	baptized 6 May 1845 – age 25
3. John Cazier	baptized 15 July 1846 – age 25
4. Benjamin Cazier	baptized 1 Dec 1844 – age 20+
5. William Cazier, Jr.	baptized 7 Sep 1870 in Endowment House (age 9)
6. Elizabeth Cazier	baptized 26 July 1846 – age 19½
7. Samuel Cazier	baptized 15 July 1846 – age 14+
8. David Crockett Cazier	baptized 20 Feb 1853 – age 18¾
9. Charles Drake Cazier	baptized 29 July 1847 – age 10½
10. Rosanna Cazier	baptized 22 Feb 1852 – age 11½

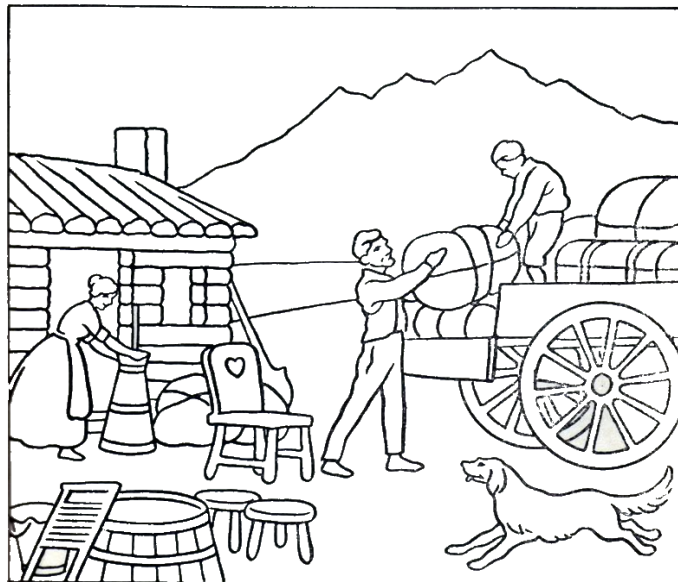
Father William was later baptized for his son William who had died at age 9. He was baptized for him in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City on September 7, 1850.



Before they joined the Mormon Church they had been going to the Campbellite Church. When he got baptized into the LDS church William went to the Campbellite Church and told the minister and his friends of his vision. He thought they would believe him, but they said he was crazy and wouldn't believe him. So persecution started and the family was forced to move again. The residents of the area took their farm and tried to put William in jail.



William had to leave his family behind and go to La Harp, Illinois, about twenty miles east of Nauvoo. He later sent for his family and they all stayed here until the Spring of 1846. Some of the Older boys found jobs to earn money for the move they were going to make to the Rocky Mountains in Utah. The mob had taken all of their land but the family still had a wagon, and a span of horses, and about six yoke of oxen. They were able to take their few belongings and join with other Mormon pioneers to come with the Church to the Salt Lake Valley.



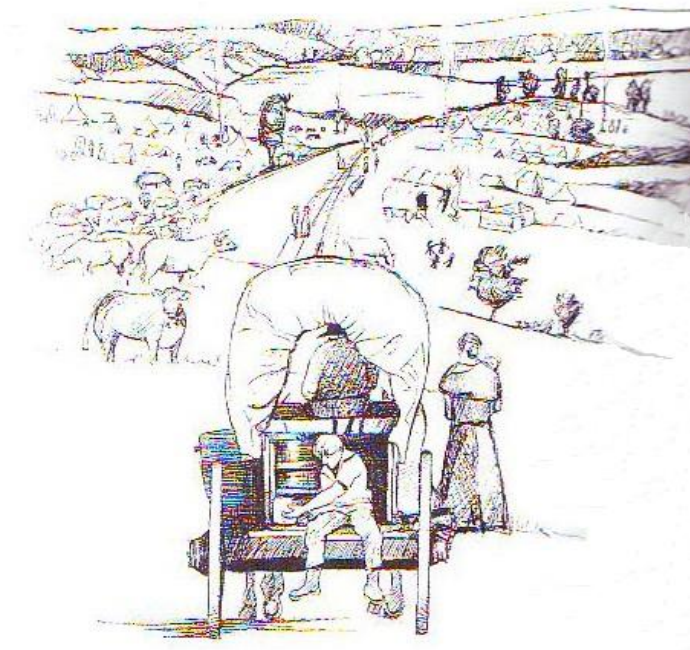
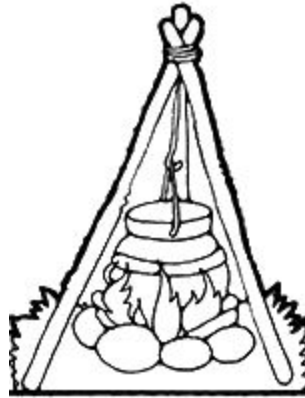


The oldest son, James Cazier, was married and had a family of his own. His wife did not want to come with the Mormons so when the mobs ran the Cazier family out of the area, she kept their four children and stayed behind in Illinois. The mob and his wife's brothers kept James' farm and family, gave him a span of horses and a wagon, and told him to get out. So he did and came along with the Church.



The Cazier family left for Winter Quarters (Council Bluffs), Iowa, in May of 1846 in their wagons while driving their few cattle along with them.

The wagon was old style and all cooking was done with a skillet and frying pan over a log fire. The covers of the wagon were made of only sheeting and did not keep them dry in a rain storm. They were soaked wet many times both during the day or the night as they traveled on their long journey.



William and Pleasant Cazier's son Benjamin married at Winter Quarters (Council Bluffs) to Olive Lucy Shaw on May 7, 1848, and they left Winter Quarters for the Salt Lake Valley with the Brigham Young Company in 1848. Also going with them was the Cazier's daughter Maranda who had previously married Charles Hinkle Bryan on June 27, 1842. The Bryans also brought with them a daughter, Elizabeth Jane, who was born while their family was at Winter Quarters, and a son John Henry Bryan.

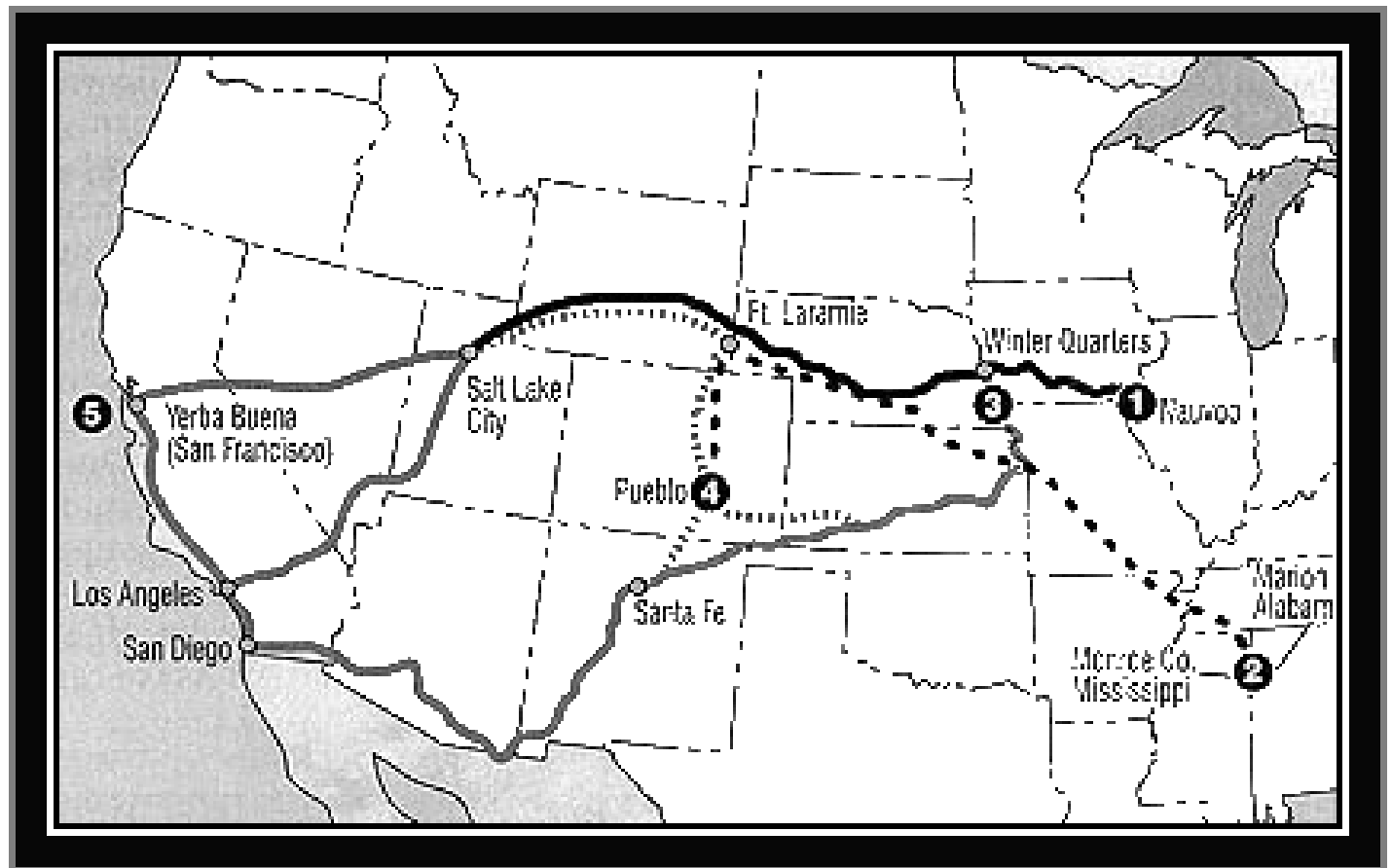
While at Winter Quarters (Council Bluffs) William's wife, Pleasant Drake Cazier, died, in November 1846, due to the hardships of the journey. She also got Scurvy because of a lack of fresh vegetables in their diet. Benjamin and David also got sick with Scurvy, but they soon recovered. They buried their mother there in a hollowed out log and covered her with a blanket and the end board of the wagon. She was laid to rest in an area called "Highland Grove", at age nearly 50 years old. The rest of the family, and other Mormon pioneers, later left Winter Quarters for the Salt Lake Valley in 1851 with the Morris Phelps Company.



Since he had no wife to help raise his younger children, William married a second time to a widow by the name of Mrs. Margaret Phillis Ewin. She helped him care of his family, and took care of William too, through the long journey to Utah. She died March 18, 1867, in Nephi, UT).



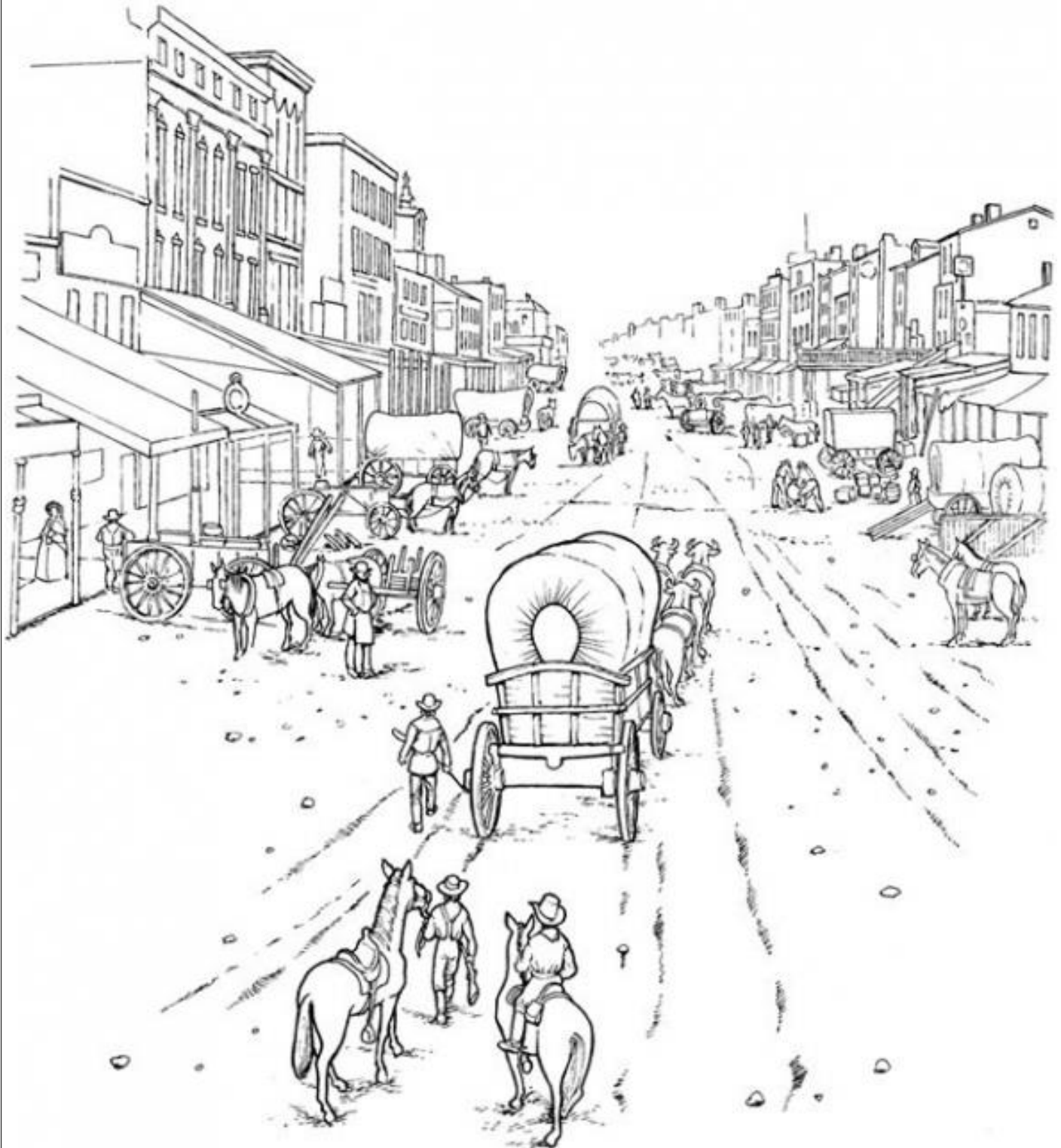
Sons James Cazier and his brother John both joined the Mormon Battalion at this time.



The flag of the Mormon Battalion



When the Cazier family arrived in the Territory of Utah, they first settled in Salt Lake City. This was October 1, 1851.



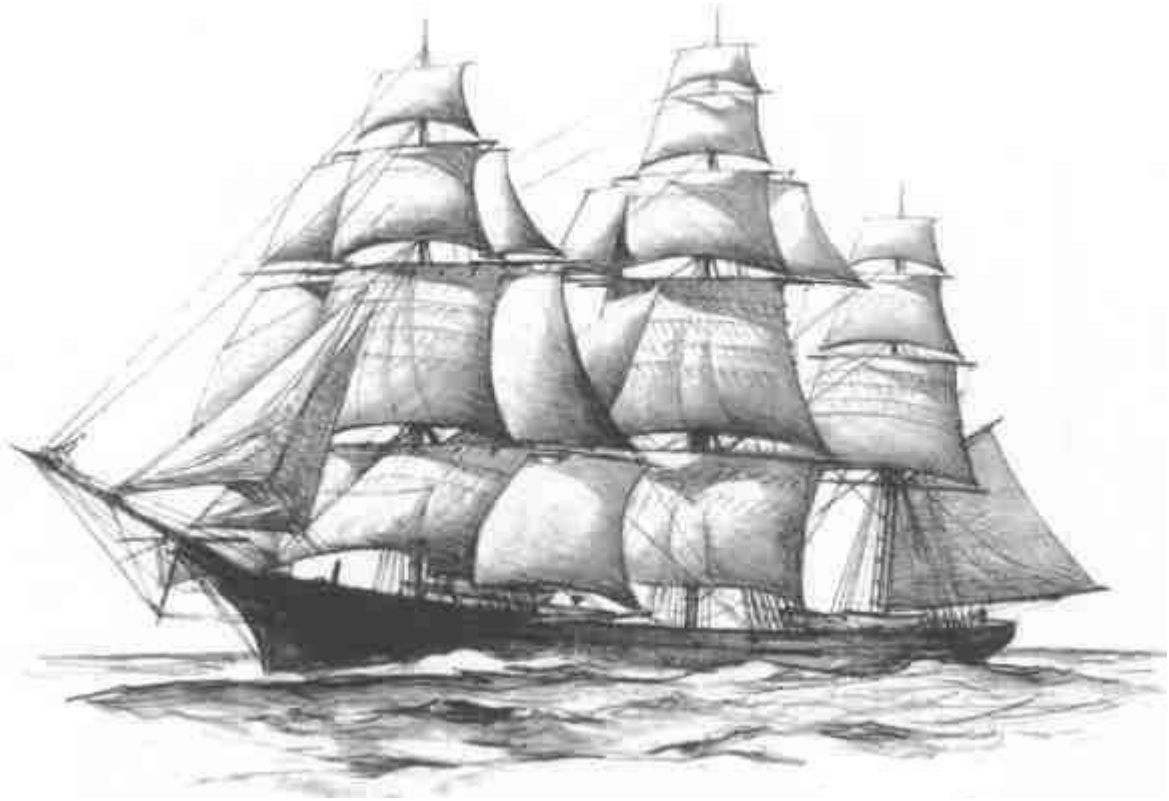
A month later, by the end of October, they were asked to move to the area of Utah called Salt Creek, and now known as Nephi. They were among the first settlers there. They were to build homes and plant crops and build up the area. The local Indians gave them a lot of trouble and so they soon had to build a fort which they named "Salt Creek Fort". Later it was called "Fort Nephi".



After his wife Margaret died, William married a third time to Sarah Clayton on February 18, 1856. She immigrated to America from England and came West with the Saints.

William Cazier's youngest daughter, Rosanna, was about 15½ years old and not married yet. Neither was his son David who was nearly 22 years old, or Samuel who was 24½. Sarah took care of William and his family and helped to raise the little children.



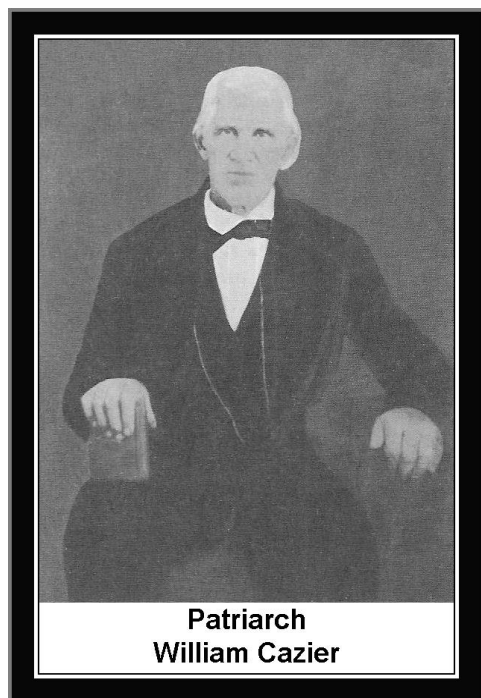


This is a sailing ship like the one in which Sarah Clayton came to America



Below the decks of a ship on the long journey across the ocean

On October 9, 1853, William Cazier became the first Patriarch of the church in Nephi Utah. He gave many Patriarchal Blessings to members of the church and also to members of his family. He even gave a Patriarchal Blessing to an Indian Chief names Chief Walker. He told him that if he would learn about the Mormons, and do as they did to cultivate the earth, etc., that he would be blessed. Today we have another family member who is a Patriarch. His name is Gail A. Cazier, and he lives in Rexburg, Idaho.



William Cazier lived to be 78 years of age. He died in Nephi, Utah and is buried there with two of his wives. Pleasant Drake Cazier's name is written on their headstone, but she is buried on the plains at Winter Quarters (Council Bluffs, Iowa).

