



John Pack Journal

(first 12 pages of narrative)

Transcribed with his own words, spelling, punctuation, and as written, line-by-line

by Brad Pack, August 5, 2007

May the 17 AD 1846

I John Pack the Son of George
rite this history or journal of my life
that my Children in time to come may no the dealings
of the lord with me their father My father
was Born in the State of New Jersey his
Father died when he was five years old an
my Father was bound to Mr Kent until he was
twenty one years of age my Mother was Born in
East greenage in the Ste of Rode islan they
was Marid in the Sity of St Johns New
Brunswick my Fathers Fathers name was Jobe
Pack Father had one Brother his name was
Bengaman I no no more about his Connction my
Mothers Fathers name was Ruphus Green
his Wifes name was Margret Buckhout my
Mother had four Brothers the eldest one was
John the next was Caleb the next was John
he was named in remembrance of the eldest
for he died when he was nine months old the
youngest name was James the three youngest
are yet alive they had two Cisters the Eldest name
was Nancy the next is my Mother her name is
Phylote when I was eight years of age My
Father moved to the State of New York Jefferson
County town of Watertown he had five Sons and
Seven Daughters the Eldest Sons name was
George he is now living in the State of New
York Madeson County town of Peterboro he has Nine
Children his Wifes name is Mariah Lothop Ruphus
Pack the next eldest is a member of the Church of
Jesus Christ of latterday Saints and is with the Church
now an has ben Since he joyned his first Wifves name
was Betsy Green She died in pike County State of
Illinois after her death he Mared Hanah Draper
She died firm in the faithe after her death he
Mared Jane Robison he has one Son and
Six daughters the next is my Self John Pack
the next to me is my Brother Caleb he was Baptised

an confirmed a Member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterdy Saints at atlass Pike County Illinois he then moved to the Town of Pery an died with the consumption in the twenty eight year of his age he was Buried four miles West of the vilage of pery in a hicery grove Near his Wives Fathers whose name is Brower his Wives Name is Mary Brower My Brother had one daughter her name is Elizabeth Delight My next Brothers name is James Bengaman he is the youngest he lived at Atlass one hundred miles below Nauvoo he came to Nauvoo an said that he had come on perpose to be Baptised he was baptised an Confirmed in the Church an lived one year an died firm in the faithe his complaint was the consumption he died in the twentyfourth year of his age and was buried in the old grave yard in Nauvoo below the Temple of the Lord on the east Side of the yard he died in the year of our Lord 1844 in the month of April he pased through the troubles with the Saints in Missoura an was taken by the mob an kept on raw Beef three dayes an had his life threatened many times he left A wife and two little daughters when he died the two Children lived but a short time after the death of their father his Wives name was Susan Baxter I had Seven Sisters the eldest ones name is Margaret She Marrid Farquer McKinsey they lived in Hounsfield Jefferson County State of New York an had nine Children three of there Children died in Jefferson they then Moved to Uper Canady an both died an there Children came back to Jefferson County my next is Sally She was marid to Thomas Nickerson they lived in Jefferson County and had Several Children Sally died in Jefferson County and was buried in the town of hounsfield near the Sulpher Springs Mr Nickerson took the Children and went to upper Canady I no nomore of his Children he joyned the church and died at Diamon in Missoura my next Cister is Nancy she was Marid to Obidiah Brainard they are living in the town of Frankling Portage County State of Ohio My next Cister is Pheby She was Marid

To Levy Wood they both joynd the Church in the State of New York and moved to Missoura he died while on the journey near Huntsville Pheby was Marid to Amos Herick they now live in quincy State of Illinois and have Several Children My Sister Mary the next youngest was Marid to Henry coster and had four Children he died. She then moved to the City of quincy in the State of Illinois an joined the Church an is living there now with three of her Children Eliot Coster the eldest died at Peterboro Madeson Couty State of new york my next Cister is Hariet She Maried Samuel Farman they are living at Milwakey Wiscosin Teritory Hariet joyn the Church Some years a go Eleanor my youngest Cister was Marid to William Bosley they both joyn the Church Wiliam died in Nauvoo they had one Son his name is Geore Wiliam after his Father Eleanor after the death of her Husband was Marrid to S H Laurence and is now living in the City of quincy State of Illinois I now Commence with My own history John Pack

I was born in St Johns New Brunswick Loer Canida the twentieth of May 1809 when I was eight years old My Parents moved to the State of new york and when I was in My twenty fourth year of My age I was Marred to Julia Ives the Daughter of Erastus Ives and Lucy Paine Ives his Wife The Father of Erastus Ives had four Sons the eldest was Joel the next was Jothem the next Titus the next Erastus who is My Wifes Father They had two Cisters the eldest was Anah the youngest is Lucy. Lucy Paine My Wifes Mother that was her Maiden name her Father had Seven Children two Sons and five daughters the eldest Son was Ephraime the youngest was Abigah Elizabeth the eldest daughter the next is Mary the next is Cloey the next is Lucy My Wifes Mother Erastus Ives My Wifes Father died in Wattertown Jefferson County State of New york when Julia was in her twelvth year of her age

Her Mother Lucy Ives lived a widow Six years after the death of her Husband She joyned the Church and Sold her Property and moved to Kirtland State of Ohio She lived there one year and then moved to the State of Missoura She bought a farm in Davis County and lived there one year and was driven by the Mob with the Saints to Nauvoo She lived there Six months and died firm in the faithe bing worn out by percicution and Could well be counted a Marter She was Bured in the old grave yard below the temple My Wifes Father had four Children three Sons and one daughter the eldest is Joel the next is Jerome and the next is Henry They are all living in the State of New York Jefferson Co Town of Watertown the name of the daughter is Julia who is My Wife I was Marid in the month of Octtober 1832 and lived in the town of Watertown Jefferson County State of New york four years there Julia bear Me My eldest Son Ward E Pack April the 17 1834 I joyned the Church of Christ of latter day Saints the Eight day of March 1836 after one year I moved with my famaly to Kirtland Ohio and stayed there one year there Julia bear Lucy my eldest daughter June the tweny fourth 1837 there I with my Wife received our Patriachal Blessings

At a blessing Meting held in the Lords House in Kirtland This the 22 day of July 1837 by Joseph Smith Sen the Patriarch of the Church of Later day Saints a Patriarchal blessing was confere on the head of John Pack Son of George Pack born in New Brunswick Loer Canida the 20 of May 1809 Brother Pack In the name of Jesus Christ the Son of God I lay my hands on thy head Seal and Confirm on the blessings that Shal never be taken of I pronounce on thy head a Fathers Blessing that thou and thy sead may be blest and benefited My hand are on thy head with thy Fathers hands and I pronounce this blessing in thy Fathers name Thou art Caled and chosen

of God to do a great and mighty work on the earth in this generation God has known thy blood from all Eternity Thou art of the blood of Israel through the Loins of Joseph the Son of Jacob Thou hast desired to do good to be made an Instrument in the hands of God of bringing Souls in to his Kingdom the Angels of heaven have been witnesses of the honesty and integrity of thy heart They have Rejoiced on account of thy faithfulness The Eyes of God are upon thee from time to time and from year to year Thou shalt behold the great joy that shall rest on the Church of the Latterday Saints Thou shalt behold a great Salvation in Zion thou shalt see the redemption of Zion thou shalt have an inheritance in Zion and thy Children shall be blest and stand with thee Thou shalt see the Temple reared in Zion a Cloud resting on it, Thou shalt behold thy Saviour Come in the Clouds of heaven with Power and great glory, God will bless thee thy health shall hold good thy bodily and intellectual powers shall be strengthened Thou must proclaim the Gospel to this generation God will Give thee the great Power, Thou mayest Command the Enemy to Stand back, thou shalt have power over Winds and waves over tempest and raging fires thou mayest turn Rivers out of their Courses thou mayest walk on the waters Thou shalt have Power over Prisons they shall not hold thee Nothing shall hurt thee Thou must be faithful thou art of the Covenant blood of Israel and Ephraim thou art entitled to the Priesthood Thou shalt belong to the holy ones Thou shalt Stand with the Lamb thou shalt belong to the one hundred and forty four thousand that shall Stand with the Lamb on Mount Zion thou shalt Sing the Song God will give thee Power and authority to preach to the Spirits in prison Thou

Shalt Stand on a Great Planet most in the
Celestial Worlds with the priesthood and nothing
Shal take it from you Thou Shalt have Pour
over Treasures hid in the Sand thou Shalt
have the Treasures of Abriham Isaac and Jacob
This is thy blessing it is given the on condison
of keeping the Commandments and word of
Wisdom I Seal it on thy head I Seal the
up to Eternal life amen

Brothr Packs Father haveing his hand on his sons
head with the Patriarch while pronouneing the
above blessing Confirmed it in these words my son
I Seal and confirm on thy head all that has
ben Spoken thou hast a great work to do thou
must lay hold of faithe and thou Shalt be
blest The blessings of God Shal rest on thy
posterity

Joseph Pine, Scribe and witness

At a blessing Meting held at the Lords house in
Kirtland this the 22nd July 1837 by Joseph Smith
Sen the Patriarch of Church the Latter day Saints a Patriarchal
Blessing was confirmed on the head of Julia Pack
Daughter of Erastus Ives an wife of John Pack
born in Watertown Jefferson Countey N Y the
8th day of March 1817 Sister Pack In the
name of the Lord Jesus of Nazerith
I lay my hands on thy head thou hast come
in faithe to clame from under my hands a
fathers Blessing to make the equal to thy
husband the Pours of Earth an hell Shal
not prevail a gainst the, Gods eyes are upon
the he knows thy heart an Soul thou hast
a heart to feel for thy fellow Creatures thy
life Shal be spared an thou Shal pass along
among thy bretheren with honour the Enemy
desires to destroy the an make a Prey of
the Erelong angels Shal minister to the

Thou shalt rejoyce in the lord and
Rock of thy Salvation thy heart is at this
time pure before God thy name is ritten
in the Book of heaven it Stands recorded
in the Lambs Book of life not to be
blotted out without thy concent thy Posterity
Shalt be blest from jeneration to jeneration yea
Sister they Shal possess the Pours of Faithe the
Lord has promised Nothing Shal be able to hold
the back but thou Shalt be able to do the work
an will of thy heavenly Father Thou Shalt be able
to Stand on the Earth in the flesh an behold
the winding up Seen of this Generation thy
heart will mourn on the account of the Dis
truction of Inocent Children Erelong thou shalt
See great Distruction in the Lan thou must
hold up by faithe Thou shalt have an In
heritance in Zion Thy children Shall be
withe the Thou mayest have to pass through
Tribulation yet thou Shalt rejoyce thou mayest
Suffer loss of Property yet thou Shalt become
rich haveing the Treasures of the Earth Thou
Shalt have pour to do a great Work in the
Earth Thou Shalt have the means of feeding
an instructing thousand of Orphan
helpless Children they Shalt be fed at thy
Table I Seel the up to Eternal life being
Spokemon for thy Father I leave the in the arms
of God Thou must kep the
Commandments an the word of Wisdom
Amen

Thou art of the Loins of the Patriarch
Joseph the son of Jacob being of the
Same kin with Thy husband he being
a desendant of Joseph an Ephram

I then took my family and moved with the Church to Missouri There I Buried my Father in the month of September in the graveyard at farwest in February 1838 being compelled by the mob I moved with my Family to the State of Illinois Pike County four miles west of the town of Pery I was compelled to labour with my hands to Support my family the most of my time in consequence of my being robbed of my property by the mob in Missouri but in course of the year I took A Mishon in the South part of the State The next Spring 1840 I moved my Family to Nauvoo while in Nauvoo I Spent the Most of my time in preaching I went once to the State of Maine once to the State of new jersey and other small mishons while on my Mishon to New jersey the Prophets Joseph and Hiram Smith was Slain immediately after I heard of their death I returned home the Mob continued to rage and burn our houses and kill our Bretheren until we agreed to leave the State in Nauvoo Julia bear me My Second Son George Caleb November the Sixth 1840 She also bear Me John Jun My third Son the fifth of Oct 1843 There she also bear me My second Daughter Julia the fifth of October 1845 in the Month of August 1843 Julia my Wife was sealed to me for time and through all Eternity under the Order of the holy Priesthood by the Patriarch Hiyram Smith after Julia was Sealed to me I Stood Proxy for my Mother to be Sealed to My Father George Pack September 1844 Susan Baxter My brothers Wife James Pack was Sealed to Me for time and Eternity in February 1845 Nancy Boothe was sealed to Me for time and Eternity also Ruthe Mosier was sealed to Me for time and Eternity in the Month of March the Same year

December 1845 we received our ordinances
In the Temple of the Lord and in the Month
of february the 8th day of the Month 1846
I took My leave of My Comfortable dwelling
and crosed the Missipy river an took my shelter
with my familey an the Saints in the open
air on Sugar Creck where we was exposed
to the Cold Storms of winter the Cold was
so Great that while we was there encamped
the river frose sufficient for loded teams
to cross on the ice but not with standing
their was several thousand Souls in camp
three weeks there was not a death an very
little Sickness the camp was then organisd
by hondreds an fiftyes and tens The
Apostals Brigham Young And Heber C
Kimball was appointed President of secon
Fifty in first Hondred an Steven Markum
Capt of Fifty an my Self was appointed Clerk
we then Comenced our journey to the Rockey
Mountains the Snow an Rain was so severe
an the mud was so deep that we made but
little progress the last of April we arived
to garden grove on the East fork of grand
River Where the hole Camp planted a large
field an left a few Saints to raise graine for
the Saints that came after we then took a
North west Cource over hils and vaiels for days
but traveled oneley about 45 miles the countrey
being very rough our cattle had become very
numerous and made a beautiful appearance
as they crost over the hils and reached for a great
distance we came to the midle fork of gran
river where we maid an other Settlement
and Caled the place Mount Pisga The camp
remained here two weeks from this place we
persued our journey for the Mountains an arived
at Cutlers fark the first of August on the
blufs three miles from the Missoura river an
twelve Miles above council point here

we buried our second daughter Julia the thirtieth day of August 1846 in the burying ground near by the first of September the camp moved down on the river and called the place Winter quarters here we stayed through the winter The leaders of said Camp deemed it necessary to raise a camp of pioneers to search out the route to Salt Lake Valley in the Mountains A company of about one hundred and fifty men was raised for the purpose the company was led by the twelve Brigham Young and Heber C Kimball Company was organized in a military form and I was appointed Major or Lieutenant Colonel over Brother Brigham's Division we started the eighteenth day of April, 1847

In winter quarters My Wife Julia performed the following
This may certify that on the thirteenth day of January 1847 I took oil that had been prepared and consecrated for the purpose and anointed my husband John Pack his head and feet for his burial and Resurrection and wiped his feet with the hairs of my head and sealed upon him my claim that he should bring me forth in the resurrection Julia Pack

This may certify that on the thirteenth day of January A D 1847 that Julia Pack my first wife took oil that had been prepared and consecrated for the purpose and anointed my head and feet for my burial and Resurrection and wiped my feet with the hairs of her head and sealed upon me her claim that I should bring her forth in the Resurrection John Pack

We took our own course through the wilderness making our own roads when we arrived at North fork of plat river 350 miles from

Winter quarters I felt imprest upon to rite the
folering lines

May the 16 1847 North fork of Plat River
After I John Pack having had much contem-
pilation about the order of adoption an my
Kindred and maid it a Subject of prayer
for a long time I rite this my will to my
Wife Julia and my Children being dictated
by the spirit of the Lord first of all I want
my Children to be sealed to me and I want
to be sealed to my Father and my Father
to his Father and so on from Son to Father Until
all of our Kindred are redeemed Then I want your
Kindred to be Sealed to me in like maner
Thanks be to god it is my privilige to be
A Saviour on Mount Zion and save our
kindred and this I am Determined to do by the
assistance of the Lord and if I Should fale
On the Earth and die before I have an
oportunity I command you Julia and my
Children in the name of Jesus and by the
authority of the holy Priesthood to See that
it is done And you Julia have bourn me
Sons and daughters if I die before you you
have no need to be Sealed to any Man for
time The lord has blest you your reproach
is taken away but my request is that you are
never Sealed to any man beside Me for I
am thy Husband and Saviour through time
and through all Eternity and thou art the
Wife of my youth if I Should leave Wives
when I die that have not bourn me children
if they chouse let them be sealed to Some
good man for time but I had rather it
would be Some of my Kindred I charge
you faile not to do this for it is the will
of the lord and the will of his Servant
John to his Wife Julia and to his Children
John Pack

We persued our journey from North fork of plat River
Crossing rivers making our rode a crost Mountains and
arrived in the valley the twenty fourth day of July
1847 we plowed one hondred acres of ground and soed
it to graine for The Company that should follow after
us after we had done this we left the valley of
Great Salt Lake and returned to our familiees in
Winter quarters Where I stayed until Spring I then with
my familey and the Saints persued our journey to the
valley leaving winter quarters the first of April
1848. In Winter quarters Julia bear me my
fourth Son Don Carlos the twenty Second
day of August 1847 After traviling five
Months we arrived in the valley here I campt
with my family and proceded to get out
timber for a house to Shelter my family which
haveing done in the spring and summer I
labourd hard to raise graine for my familiey
which I accomplished The sixt of October
1849 I was Caled upon in company with
John Tailor and Curtis Bolton to go to
France to preach the gospel
In Salt Lake City State of Deseret
August the twenty second 1849 Julia
bear me her third daughter Eleanor Phylote
also Nancy my wife bear me her first
Child Sarah Amelia the Second day
of June 1849 in Salt Lake City
My wife Also Ruthe bear me her first Child October
The twentieth 1849 Silas Mosier

We left Salt Lake City for France the
eighteenth of Oct 1849

*"Thanks be to God it is my privilege **to be a savior on Mount Zion and save our kindred**, and this I am determind to do by the assistance of the Lord. And if I should fail on the earth, and die before I have opportunity, I command you Julia, **and my children**, in the name of Jesus, and by the authority of the holy priesthood, to **see that it is done.**" -John Pack*

"Thanks be to God it is my privilege to be a savior on Mount Zion and save our kindred, and this I am determined to do by the assistance of the Lord. And if I should fail on the earth, and die before I have opportunity, I command you Julia, and my children, in the name of Jesus, and by the authority of the holy priesthood, to see that it is done." -John Pack

I think it is very interesting to note that, even with his wide variety and rich personal history in the early days of the church, and knowing personally Joseph Smith and others, the majority of his journal, nearly 70 pages, is devoted to genealogy and temple work. Only about 12 pages of the journal is a narrative about his life. John had to go by horse and buggy from Salt Lake to Logan to do temple work and went several times. I think when we see the value and importance he placed on genealogy and temple work that it should be a good encouragement for us to do it too since it is so much easier for us, in our day.

To see the original handwritten John Pack Journal pages go on our web site:

www.johnpackfamily.com/journal/