Recollections of Past Days

Petree, Sandra Ailey

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Appendix 7

Patience Loader Rozsa Archer to Tamar Loader Ricks

November 17, 1914
Pleasant Grove, Utah

My dear sister Tamar,

I know you have been looking for a letter from me before now. I didn’t know you was going home so soon as Ann said you was coming to stay with her again before you went home. Amy went to the city last Thursday on the Temple Excursion. She went to see her Aunt Ann in the morning and staid a few hours with her she found that she could not work in the Temple untill afternoon. The company was large from this stake and they divided the number. I am thankful to tell you that we got our Uncles endowed and all grandfather’s and grandmother’s children are all sealed to them, thirteen in all. And my dear sister I know you will be as glad as I am to get this work done. I think if you and I lived near the Temple that we would have had this work done long ago. Our men folks are altogether to slow as I tell they are letting this precious opportunity pass them by. They plead they have no time as they have to mark all the time to make a living. I told my folks they can take a lay off for one or two weeks every summer to go in the canyon for pleasure which only for a few fleeting days and is past and gone forever. If they would spend that much time in the Temple of God working for their dead relatives that would bring them everlasting joy and pleasure and they would recieve great blessings in return for their labors. Now my dear sister Tamar I want to explain to you something about our temple work as I have not got any dates of birth and where born and where and when died. I cannot have any wives sealed to Uncle William and Uncle James Britnell. We never knew them also our aunts cannot be sealed to their husbands which I am very sorry for. When we commenced the Temple work in Logan they
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let us do the work for the dead if we could tell where they was born and where they died without giving dates as I was unable to give dates but now they are very strict. If I had not had the proper dates to grandfather’s and grandmother’s birth and death and also their children, their children would not have been sealed to them. I feel so thankful that I had all their dates. When Amy went to Logan to get the work done for dear father I gave her five dollars to get the work done for our grandfather Britnell and Loader. The work was allready done for all our women folks in eighty seven. Amy and I did that. Later you did for Aunt Mary. Amy also had the work done for our brother Jonas and uncle Frank Britnell and they are all sealed. I am so glad that was done at that time as it could not have been done now as I could not give any dates of grandmother Loader neither grandfather Loader or any of their family or aunt Laley or (Saley) Britnell name. She is sealed to uncle Frank and our grandfather and grandmother Loader are sealed also, also Jonas and Jane. I did not know when she was born or died. I am thankful that is all done. This has been quite an anxious time for me. I could not sleep at night while it was about. Since we commenced our temple work Uncle Philemon have died and his wife Mary Fleet. I have wrote back to cousin Elias to send me the name and birth and death of his mother. Then I can have the work done for her and seal her to Uncle Philemon. I have also sent to aunt Maria White’s grandson Hayden White to send me the birth and death of his grandfather Hayden White. If he can send it then aunt Maria and her husband can be sealed. Cousin Elias sent me the correct dates of Ann and Sophia Britnell and his own son and sister name. I have sent for him to send me if he can the dates of Uncle John Britnell’s and his wife. He married a Martha Darral. They are Ann and Sophia Britnell’s parents. I told him if it cost anything to get those dates we would pay the expense. I sent a dollar bill and ask him to let me know in his next letter if he can use that kind of money in England. Aunt Maria’s grandson that writes to me is her son Mark’s son. I asked him to send the birth and death of his own father and mother. I know her maiden name was Elisa Carrol. My dear Tamar give my love to Zilpha. Tell her I found the letter I thought I sent to her to read that is Mr. Britnell’s letter I wanted to refer to. I believe his father is our grandfather’s cousin. I have not recieved any answer to my letter. He said he had no doubt but we was relations. He said he knew but little about his relations and thought there was but few Britnell’s living. I told him if he went to Kingston that he would find quite a number living there and that I corresponded with them regular that he would also find a number by the name of Hatton and they may be his relations on his mother’s side. He said his mother’s name was Jane Hatton and she was born at Kingston. He could not tell if his father was born at Kingston or Chinor but he lived at Chinor before he was married. His father’s name
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was John Shaw Britnell. He said his grandfather had several brothers. He thinks my mother may be sister to his grandfather, as one of his brothers and I think so too. He said he had a sister Amy, Maria and Jane. If he don’t write soon I will write again and ask him the given name of his grandparents Hatton. He must belong to some of the younger families as he is not more than forty five or six years old. Perhaps he is one of those that would not care to know his poor relatives in Kingston. He told me in his letter that he would be glad to help me out in any way he could and send me the English papers and I thanked him very kindly and told him in return I would send him the Deseret News so that he could read about Utah and the lovely country we was living in. I may be he had to go to this war like our poor young cousin has gone. Poor cousin Elias and his wife raised that child. His mother died when he was seven years old. He is twenty now. They said he was such a comfort to them now they are old. He was always such a good boy and helped them so much and now he had to leave them and go to this war. Poor things they feel so bad to loose their boy. This is an awful war so much suffering in the world. I will have to quit reading about it. John sends me the evening news and I read it every evening then I cannot sleep for thinking about the poor suffering creatures and I have been moved some getting our Temple work ready for the time the brethren and sister went. I fell quite better over that name and will get another list ready for baptism to be done soon.

Amy joins in love to all also Ruth. I am soory to hear such bad news about Marias poor child. Ann told Amy how she still suffers.

Your loving sister,

Patience R. Archer

Write to me soon. I don’t know if I wrote to Zipha or not. I have been some what bothered of late having to write so much to England for dates it takes time and lots of writing.