



THE KELLEY FAMILY LEGACY

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The ancestors of Ella Belle Kelley began their adventurous life in the new land called America more than a century before her husband Oscar Anderson's parents heard of its wonders. The Kelleys and related families trace their rich heritage back to the the British Isles. They travelled across the ocean to begin a new life in two of the original thirteen colonies, Pennsylvania and Virginia. As the years went by, these colonies fought for their independence from their mother country.

Because the new nation that resulted from this war valued a separation of church and state, people could no longer depend on the church to record the milestone events of their lives; each level of government -- federal, state, county and local -- requires that its own records be kept, but does not require any standardization through the jurisdictions, making the task of collecting a family history the more arduous.

RICHARD KELLEY FAMILY

Family records tell us Richard Kelley (1749) of Gloucester, England and Martha (Maria) Gibbs (1754) travelled together on the same ship to America in 1773. Whether they were married aboard ship or upon their arrival in America is unknown. They settled originally in Virginia, and later moved to North Carolina, while raising a large family born during the years 1775-1790. Their children included Richard Jr., Joel, Matthew, Jonathan, Benjamin Franklin (1784), George, Delilah, Austin, Nathan and Darling.

As the years passed, census records show they moved to settlements in South Carolina (1790), Kentucky (1800), and Tennessee (1820). This is a typical migration pattern for those who fought the war for independence because land grants were given as salary. By the early 1800's several of Richard and Martha's children are found in Kentucky starting families of their own. In Lincoln County a marriage entry was found for daughter Delilah Kelley to John Gibbs, 27 December 1800, as well as son Benjamin Franklin Kelley to Nancy Yancey on 9 January 1805. This latter marriage fostered a union between the first generation of Kelley's born in the newly formed United States with a family of patriotic heritage already living in America over half a century.

HISTORY OF THE YANCEY FAMILY

Nancy Yancey was born 22 August 1787 in Greenville, South Carolina. She was the oldest daughter of Austin Yancey and Sarah Garrison whose marriage is listed in Rutherford County, North Carolina records as 2 November 1775. In addition to Nancy their children were Austin Jr., Richard, Joseph, Hiram J., Sarah, Mary, James and probably two more whose names are unknown. Austin Yancey was born 29 August 1752 in Virginia. His father was William Yancey

and mother Sophia Davis, the daughter of Richard Davis. We believe that Austin Yancey also had brothers named Robert and William Jr.

Military records document Austin Yancey entering as a soldier in the Revolutionary War from Rutherford County. He served under Colonel William Graham in 1775 and was ordered to take twenty men and guard the passes at Chimney Mountain against the Cherokee Indians. He also served from 22 May 1781 to 19 June 1781 at the Siege of Ninety-Six in Captain Obid Holloway's Company. In 1833 at the age of 81 years, one month and ten days, and while a resident of Franklin County, Illinois, he applied for a pension based on his military service. This claim was not approved because he had not served the minimum six months required by pension law. Family records indicate that Austin died shortly after this application was made, and was buried in Fulton County, Illinois. His wife, Sarah predeceased him in 1790.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN KELLEY FAMILY

Benjamin Franklin and Nancy (Yancey) Kelley moved to Robinson County, Tennessee after their marriage. There on 23 December 1806 first son Christopher Greenup Kelley was born. Six other children would later be born into this family, namely, Permelia Ann, ~~Richard Yancey~~, Nathan Hiram, William Carol, Admiral Watson, and Leandrew Homer Kelley.

In a personal history, grandson William H. Kelley describes his grandfather, Benjamin, as "... six feet and two inches tall, muscular and stout, weighed 200 lbs. His head was covered with a thick growth of black hair which entertained a cowlick on his forehead that was about impossible to make lie down".

William H. Kelley's early history also relates that grandfather Benjamin was responsible for planting "a number of red colored cedars" that grew about a quarter mile from the home from which I saw the first light of day." This indicates that although the majority of Benjamin and Nancy's children stayed in Tennessee long enough to marry, the parents eventually moved on and settled in Illinois. ~~It seems likely that this occurred about the time that Richard Yancey Kelley (1814) wed Sarah Elizabeth Frances Ballowe on 31 May 1837, in Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee.~~ The death of Benjamin Franklin occurred 11 February 1850 in Creal Springs, Williamson County, Illinois. Nancy died 4 May 1857 close to Creal Springs in Marion County, Illinois.

RICHARD YANCEY KELLEY FAMILY

Sarah Elizabeth Frances (Ballowe) Kelley was described as "... rather below the common size and weighed only 96 lbs. when married, with astonishing amounts of energy ... hasty temper, frank in her statements and never indulged in flattery. She could drive a good bargain." This was important in an economy that was

based on the barter system.

She was the oldest daughter born 3 July 1814 in Virginia to Eli P. (1786) and Sarah H. (Winfrey) (1795) Ballowe. Both parents were born in Virginia and married about 1812. They had fourteen children born between 1813-1838. In order of birth their names were: Samuel L.S., Sarah E.F., Mary S., Mariah A., William N., Rebecca C.L., Thomas P., James C., Joannah A.M., Elmira H., Richard S., Margaret, Benjamin H., and Tennessee E. Ballowe. It is interesting to note that almost all the children had two middle names. Youngest son, Tennessee was born a year after oldest sister Sarah married Richard Yancey Kelley.

Richard was "opposed to slavery as an institution and not satisfied to live under it's influences." Therefore, shortly after his marriage to Sarah he began to search for a new home in a free state. They arrived in Johnson County, Illinois prior to the birth of their first son in 1838. At some point, Richard's brother Leandrew Homer Kelley joined him. It was hard for Richard Yancey Kelley to make his living because the land had not been settled before. Richard evidently was prepared to meet these challenges as he was described as having "a strong constitution . . . to overcome pioneer obstacles, large and athletic" in physical stature, with benevolent, generous and noble values. His main occupation was that of farmer and cooper.

The next twelve years would find Richard and Sarah bringing nine children into the world. It was their third son, William Henry Kelley, who was to become the father of Ella Belle Kelley. Other siblings were Benjamin Eli Franklin, John Smith, Mary Jane Howard, Edmund Levi, George Thomas, Parley Pratt, James Madison Kelley. There was an infant who died after only a few weeks whose name is unknown. All their children were born in Johnson County, Illinois, however like those gone before them, they would settle in various locations and send descendants throughout the United States. Richard and Sarah would begin this migration by taking their family to Iowa, a place where their religious faith and convictions would become defined.

A NEW RELIGION FOR THE KELLEY FAMILY

Prior to 1839 neither Richard nor Sarah belonged to any church denomination. Within the local area a religious fervor deeply affected the community. Word got out rather quickly that the "Mormons" wanted to preach to the townspeople. Because of Richard's knowledge of the Bible he was given the responsibility by the community to "put those Mormons in their place". At the end of the sermon given by Elders Clapp, Stewart and Yancey (no relationship to family) everyone expected Richard to contradict their words, however instead he stood and told the people that what they had heard was truth. His conviction was an example to many, who soon followed him and Sarah into the waters of baptism. This

decision had a significant impact on the Kelley family to the present day, therefore it seems appropriate to provide some history.

In the year 1820, in Palmyra, New York, a young man, by the name of Joseph Smith, Jr., had several spiritual experiences. He was told, through heavenly messengers, including a vision of God the Father and his son Jesus Christ, that the gospel had been perverted during the Dark Ages and was about to be restored to its original purity, and the priesthood, as held in Christ's church, would again be granted to worthy men.

Joseph Smith, Jr. was given the opportunity to translate a record of a people who came to the North American continent six hundred years before Christ's birth in Jerusalem. This history, entitled the Book of Mormon, was published in 1830. Just as the Bible testifies of Jesus Christ's divinity, this book is a second witness to this belief. On 6 April 1830 the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized.

Many episodes of persecution drove the growing congregations to Ohio, Missouri and Illinois. In 1839, the Saints began building a new home on the friendly borders of Illinois in a city that became known as "Nauvoo the Beautiful". Unfortunately, it was not long before their enemies returned, and after a long series of tragic circumstances, Joseph Smith, Jr. and his brother Hyrum were murdered by mobs in Carthage, Illinois 27 June 1844.

Once again the Saints would experience a change in their geographical location. This time confusion prevailed because of the loss of the Prophet, Joseph Smith, Jr. Under the leadership of Brigham Young the majority of the people moved to the Rocky Mountains. A faction of the Saints remained in small groups throughout Illinois and Iowa. A re-organization of the church congregations began in 1852. These people believed those Saints moving west advocated doctrines Joseph Smith, Jr. did not profess. In 1860 the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints moved ahead under the leadership of the slain prophet's son, Joseph Smith III. In time, Church Headquarters would be located first in Lamoni, Iowa and eventually Independence, Missouri.

EARLY HISTORY OF WILLIAM H. KELLEY

The prominence of William H. Kelley as a minister in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has resulted in much being written about his life which began on 1 April 1841 in Evergreen, Johnson County, Illinois. Through his own writings about his early life, we have a detailed monograph which ends in mid-sentence, unfortunately, as he discusses conditions in the church in 1860.

As a young man he was inquisitive and loved learning about

life. Often his new found knowledge would lead him into curious adventures that would only cause further questions, as is revealed in this interesting excerpt:

I think I must have been very much interested in knowing about things. Some time before this there was a rainstorm and thunder and lightning. I wanted to know what made the thunder. The reply was that they were rolling barrels down a hill up in the sky. That was a puzzle to me. I concluded, however, to try to get up there and see. It did not seem very far away where the earth and sky came together, so of course that would be the place to climb up in the sky and help roll the barrels down. I walked and walked and walked, but there was no change in appearances, so I got discouraged and returned home tired enough, and disappointed!

In time he would pen the memoirs of his Civil War experience. It was November 1864 he enlisted at Council Bluffs, Iowa. His motivation for enlisting was to help keep his older brother from doing so, as he had a young family. He was sent immediately to Nashville, Tennessee with seventy-five men of which only twenty-five returned. His service lasted about nine months, receiving a discharge in August 1865. His military experience left him in great physical hardship as his wardrobe consisted of summer clothing during winter weather, which brought heavy rains that relented little over a long period of time. This caused "rheumatism [to] set in among other things", and he was urged by his physician to seek a disability pension.

WILLIAM H. KELLEY FAMILY

William H. Kelley, the descendant of Revolutionary War veterans met Nancy Ellen Campbell, the daughter of Scotch-Irish immigrants in Minnesota in 1863. She was living there with her family when the young Kelley, a minister in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (RLDS), came to preach the gospel in the area. He was to convert her father's entire family (as was common in this tradition) and five years later, after serving in the Civil War, and serving on another church mission, he asked Nancy Ellen to marry him. They were married on 12 December 1868 in Milton, Dodge County.

After their marriage, William H. and Nancy Ellen Kelley left Minnesota to make their home in Indiana, residing in the county of Ripley, where Nancy Ellen was born seventeen years prior on 28 Jan 1851. Ten children were born to this couple over a period of twenty-eight years. Their names from oldest to youngest were: Cassius Marion Richard, William Orville, James Edmund, George Benjamin, Ella Belle, Mary Elversa, Leander Gomer, Harriet Martha, Ethel Ferida, and Frances Loneita.

During the years William H. and Nancy Ellen would raise their family they would live in four states. After living in Indiana for about ten years they went to Coldwater, Michigan where Ella Belle was born in 1885. Shortly after her birth, the family went to Kirtland, Ohio for another decade. By the turn of the century, William H. Kelley's leadership responsibilities required his close proximity to church headquarters in Lamoni, Iowa so the family moved one final time.

Throughout their life together, William H.'s leadership role in the RLDS church also meant he was often away from home. Despite his travels, his family was always able to share many values and assumptions with other church members in the communities they resided. When his daughter, Ella Belle, first visited the family who were to become her in-laws, her father was on a mission in Salt Lake City, Utah. She wrote in a letter to him at that time: "The whole [Anderson] family seems to think I'm about right. Of course I don't suppose it is on my own merit but because I am your daughter. It's very nice to have someone make a reputation for you."

Within a year after Ella Belle's marriage to Oscar Anderson 28 June 1906, her mother Nancy Ellen Kelley died on 20 March 1907. At times her name has been recorded as Ellen Nancy, (i.e an obituary) however, she was born Nancy Ellen Campbell. William H. Kelley lived another eight years, passing away on 14 August 1915 at the age of seventy-four. We will now present a history of the Nancy Ellen's ancestors before presenting the story of the life of her daughter, Ella Belle Kelley.

FRANCIS MARION CAMPBELL FAMILY

Francis Marion (1828) and Mary Ann (Huckstep) Campbell (1833) were married 5 March 1850 in Versailles, Ripley County, Indiana. Nancy Ellen and brother, James Pinckney, were the oldest of seven children, and born in Ripley County, Indiana. Francis Marion then moved his family to Minnesota where they settled in the town of Milton, Dodge County. It is in this location that Brigham Smith, Norman Kimball, Elma Jane, William Riley, and Mary Ann were born. Mary Ann Campbell (1833), Nancy's mother, died 28 February 1865, six days after the birth of youngest daughter, Mary Ann.

Soon after, a marriage entry is noted for Francis Marion Campbell and Sarah E. Randall with no date given. However, the 1870 census shows them as a couple, so we conclude the marriage took place prior to the census taker's interview. Family records indicate six children were born to them. Their names were Francis, Jr., Orvil Clark, Evaline Amanda, Martha Elizabeth, Miles Alfred and George Ellsworth. Miles Alfred was just about a year old when the Scottish-American pioneering spirit impelled Francis Marion Campbell to "pullup stakes . . . in favor of a claim near Salem, South Dakota". The trip took six weeks by covered wagon. It was

here that their last son George Ellsworth was born in 1883. Third oldest son, Norman Kimball stayed behind and eventually five generations of Campbells lived in the house that Francis Marion Campbell built.

HISTORY OF THE CAMPBELL FAMILY

Prior to continuing to the next generation of Kelley family history, we will provide some detail about the early Campbells as well as the Parker, Buchanan, Huckstep, and Overturf families that contribute genes to the Kelley legacy.

We are fortunate at this point to include the combined research efforts of several descendants of Francis Marion Campbell. Of particular interest are the searches undertaken by Ella Belle Kelley's first cousin, Fred Cassius Campbell, who was named after Cassius Marion Kelley, brother of Ella Belle. After several years of travelling to many of the places the Campbells lived, he provided research data for family members, tracing the Campbell lineage back to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 1726. It was here that Francis Marion's second great-grandfather, John Campbell (born 1656) settled after he immigrated from Ireland at the age of seventy. Interestingly enough, a second John Campbell family (having no relationship to the ancestral family) also resided in Lancaster.

John Campbell (1656) immigrated with his adult children, but no wife was mentioned. It is assumed that she died in Ireland before the family came to America. His sons were Robert, David James, Patrick and John Campbell (1710). At least two sons moved south to Virginia while youngest son, John (1710) was a Minister in the Episcopal Church..

John's (1710) wife's name is also unknown, however records show they reared a family of seven children whose names were James, Eleanor, Francis (1737), John B. (lawyer in Pennsylvania), George, Ebenezer and Elizabeth. Francis Campbell (1737) married Elizabeth Parker (1739), and their family included John, James (1770), Francis, Ebenizer, George, Parker and Elizabeth. Francis (1737) died in 1791 and Fred Campbell indicates his will was located at the county courthouse in Pennsylvania during his research.

James Campbell (1770) married Sarah Buchanan (1785) about 1815. Other children born to this couple were James Orville, Major, Oliver William (died at young age of twenty), Amonda, Elizabeth, and Ann/Hannah. Migration patterns from Pennsylvania were varied for settlers during this time period. It appears the Campbells and Buchanans travelled in their migration together, eventually settling in Madison, Indiana. During a trip to Madison, Indiana Fred Campbell enjoyed a fair amount of success in his research after attending the Presyterian Church in Shelby Township. He met some people who suggested he search the Buchanan Family

Cemetery. There he found the headstones for James and Sarah (Buchanan) Campbell, taking pictures for documentation. James (1770), Francis (1737) and John (1710) Campbell are the father, grandfather and great-grandfather of Francis Marion Campbell respectively.

JAMES PINCKNEY HUCKSTEP FAMILY

The Huckstep lineage has been traced to James Pinckney Huckstep, born August 1810 in Pennsylvania. His parents migrated to Ripley County, Indiana where he met and married Nancy Overturf 5 January 1831. To date we have determined daughter Mary Ann Huckstep (1833) had at least one brother, John H. Huckstep born 14 April 1836. James Pinckney Huckstep died at the young age of thirty-one, 28 November 1841 in Ripley County. His wife, Nancy (Overturf) Huckstep (1833) later married James Orville Campbell, her son-in-law Francis Marion Campbell's brother. Nancy died in Ripley County around 1894.

OVERTURF FAMILIES OF PENNSYLVANIA

Jacob and Rebecca (Myers) Overturf were married in 1807, the parents of thirteen children. Census records indicate the names of only four: Nancy (1811), Martin, Rebecca and Maria.

Prior to settling in Kentucky the family lived in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. It was there Jacob Overturf was born in 1785 to Martin and Catherine (Deitch) Overturf. He was one of five sons, the others being named Jacob, Samuel, Conrad and John. They also lived in Pennsylvania and were born in the 1760's.

Although family records indicated Nancy Overturf (1811) was born in Germany, it has been proven that this was incorrect. It is more likely that Valentine Overturf born about 1737 is the ancestor who immigrated. He and his wife became parents to five children whose names were John, Simon, Martin, Conrad and Valentine. It is with middle son Martin that we begin the descendancy to Nancy (Overturf) Huckstep (1811), one of Ella Belle (Kelley) Anderson's great-grandmothers.

OSCAR AND ELLA BELLE (KELLEY) ANDERSON HISTORY

Oscar Anderson (1872) is the first of four generations with that given name. He moved with his parents to a farm in Decatur County, Iowa two months after his birth in LaSalle County, Illinois. A community steeped in strong religious values, Lamoni was the perfect setting for his parents to raise their children with the qualities that would lead to a successful and prosperous adult life.

He grew to be a healthy handsome young man of medium build with blue eyes and blond hair, typical of his Scandinavian

heritage. Fun-loving but conservative, he was a friendly, congenial gentleman, a man of great integrity in his personal and business life, with the esteem of his community, his church and leaders of his home state.

Oscar received his education in the rural schools of the area, including Spurrier Grade School and Lamoni High School. Upon graduation from Highland Park College in Des Moines, Iowa (1895) he taught school for three years in Lamoni. It was clear education was a top priority for him because, as he moved on to other professional experiences, he continued as a member of the Lamoni School Board for twenty-three consecutive years.

Throughout his life he was devoted to his religious beliefs as a member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He was baptized 17 September 1882 by Joseph Smith III, son of Joseph Smith, Jr., first prophet of the church which had its beginnings in 1830. As part of the lay priesthood he was ordained first a Teacher in 1898, a Priest in 1906 and a High Priest in 1919.

A man of great integrity he was entrusted with many responsibilities regarding finances in the local and state community. The State Savings Bank of Lamoni was founded 1 July 1898. Oscar became its first cashier, director and later president, continuing in the latter post until 1931. His politics were of a conservative nature, and it was known that although he did not embrace all of mankind's ideas, he gave them the freedom to live their lives as they saw fit. He was elected as Mayor of Lamoni in 1920 and served for two years. As a public servant affiliated with the Republican party he served for two years as a State Representative for Decatur County, Iowa in the 1925-26 Legislature. In 1929 Governor John Hammill appointed him State Budget Director, and upon completion of this five year appointment he continued his association with the Iowa State Tax Commission for nine years, retiring in 1949. During these last years he became head of his department. In a letter to his daughter, Margaret, he commented, "I like my new job just fine, but there doesn't seem to be any future in it." He was seventy-five years old!

According to religious leader David O. McKay, "Success cannot compensate for failure in the home". This describes the high standards Oscar held as he waited patiently to meet the woman he would marry. That event took place within a small group of friends who shared his religious beliefs. Wedding vows were exchanged by Oscar Anderson and Ella Belle Kelley 28 June 1906, in the bride's home, as they stood at the north window in the parlor.

This couple's endearing relationship was always evident. He provided a comfortable, attractive home and was graciously appreciative of Belle's household talents and skills. Their home was blessed with three children: Oscar Kelley, Richard Carroll, and

Margaret Belle. Later, when Belle's brother Leander's wife died their four children, (Doris Ellen, William Lea, Ardith Marie and Marion James) came to live in the Anderson household and share their way of life.

Their home was a focal point for neighborhood children to gather. A man generous with his time, Oscar was quick to listen to their problems, share their interest in extracurricular activities and enjoy their quiet games. The economic depression in America affected their lives, however their children's continuing education was evident. In January 1926 son Kelley wrote the following letter while attending college:

"I expect that this will be the only birthday present you will get from me - except a wish that you have many more happy years ahead of you in which you may learn of the love and appreciation I have for you and for what you have done for me. I hope that I will always do as you will want me to do and I hope that someday I can be the kind of a man that you are now."

In response, Oscar commented on his son's thoughts:

"I was very greatly pleased with your letter and its contents. Feel as though you must have been trying to puff me up a little. When Mother read it she said that she was not going to be satisfied if you were going to be as good a man as I was. She wanted you to be twice as good. You know she always does try to hold the standard high. So of course, I think in this particular case that would be extremely high."

It was evident from the life of Ella Belle (Kelley) Anderson (1885) that her standards were high. She was the fifth, and first daughter, of ten children born to William H. and Nancy Ellen (Campbell) Kelley. Her first name Ella came from a "pet name" her father called her mother as is learned from personal letters between her parents.

Her young years were lived in her birthplace of Coldwater, Michigan. Sometime prior to her second birthday she moved with her family to Kirtland, Ohio. In this setting of hills, woods and river, she and her sister Mary often to played "house" on the steps of the Kirtland Temple. A decade later her family moved again, this time to Lamoni, Iowa. Here her family lived in a big house with her uncle E.L. Kelley's family until another house became available for their use.

When she graduated from high school in 1903 she was chosen to give the Valedictorian speech. From the copy that has survived ninety years of being packed away in boxes, we read the following inspirational advice she gave her fellow students:

"In the beginning of life two ways are offered us, toil and activity with a harvest of rare triumphs; ease and idleness with momentary pleasures and certain destruction" . . . then she poses this question . . . "Have we profitted by our experience and improved the opportunities, or have we let them pass neglected?"

With the completion of high school, she attended Graceland College in Lamoni. During this time her father was serving a mission in Salt Lake City, Utah. Letters exchanged between them indicate that she was gravely concerned about the financial aspect of getting further education. In a letter to her father on September 15, 1905 she comments:

I have worried and worried all summer about what I would do this fall...I can not very conscientiously insist on my going to College. All summer I have tried to think I did not want to go, but it is almost time for opening of fall term and I find I want to go worse than last year. But I don't see how it can be managed. I will not go another year and have my expenses paid out of mama's allowance...

Within two weeks the issue seemed resolved because she once again wrote to her father on September 27, 1905:

I am writing tonight because I just feel as tho I have had the very best luck lately that ever could befall a good-for-nothing girl. ... Professor Stewart sent a scholarship to me that the Board had approved. I really didn't like to take it but he said that you had paid \$25 of it so that it would be all right. Then in the afternoon (he) telephoned ... that he had given me one of his English classes to teach ... So now ... I am a teacher at Graceland College - can you imagine it?

As in the earlier years of her education, Belle continued to excel. In June 1905 she was awarded a Diploma of Honor for "an honorable testimonial for regular attendance, high intellectual attainments and correct deportment in the Athenian Literary Society of Graceland College."

It was during 1905 that Belle began to "be escorted" by Oscar Anderson. In July 1905 she wrote to her father, "Really papa, I don't know what to think about Oscar. He is so very attentive and seems so nice. He is very respectful ... but he is awfully serious. I don't know whether I ought to let him come any more or not." The relationship continued along because by September she wrote, "I am wondering if you will be glad or sorry, pleased or angry ... anyway, we have decided that we are just suited and have

not planned on you or mama objecting..."

One last letter to her father seems to indicate the respect and love that developed between Belle and Oscar as they moved forward towards marriage. In January 1906 she reports:

We were out in a cutter. It was quite warm and bright moonlight, the sleighing was fine and he has a dandy team so we just flew. He does everything and anything he thinks. ... Of course I suppose that at first neither has any faults at all and both are good as angels until its too late to change matters and then everything is different. But it will not be that way with us. ... He wants me to go on his vacation with him this summer right after College is out. What do you say to that?

Belle was just twenty-one years old when they were married. in June 1906, leaving shortly after for that "summer vacation" trip to Yellowstone Park. Her oldest child, Kelley, was born on her twenty-second birthday, May 11, 1907. A second son Richard and daughter Margaret Belle would follow in 1910 and 1912 respectively.

The thought "Every event in one's life is a thread weaving a pattern that unfolds by design" fits nicely into the many activities she pursued throughout her life. In 1924 when Oscar was elected as representative, she became a member of the League of Legistative Women and stayed active in that organization all her life. When her brother's wife died, her home and her heart were big enough for his four children, Doris, William Lea, Ardith and Marion.

In a community of shared values she set a standard of behavior others emulated. She and her husband were well known in the Lamoni and Graceland College community for generous hospitality. Often on Sunday, she would invite college students to bring their special friends and come for dinner after church. The dining table seated sixteen nearly every Sunday. So pleasant was the conversation and interactions around the Anderson table the young people would stay until choir practice and return for supper afterwards.

Belle Anderson would live twenty years beyond her husband. Following an illness that lasted more than two years, Oscar Anderson died on 12 August 1951 leaving his family and friends a legacy that would be remembered fondly for decades. Difficult as it was Belle continued to be active in many facets of life. Diligent in the research of her ancestors she corresponded continuously with many relatives regarding details of their lives. Her death, September 21, 1971 was mourned by her family and a multitude of friends for one who was a woman of grace, dignity and kindness.

REMEMBERING . . .

Grandmother and Grandfather Anderson . . .

I was a very young age and I remember the Sunday afternoon walks to visit them, one special time in the snow down a narrow, slippery path. Their gentle attentions and soft voices, the sugar cookies and favorite frosted ginger ones. Grandfather proudly bringing us fresh homegrown vegetables from his garden. Knowing they would always be sitting side by side each other in their own rocking chair, and I could sit next to them. The pink peppermint candies Aunt Nellie had ready for us. (Aunt Nellie lived with and took care of them).

Grandfather and Grandmother Kelley . . .

Grandmother Kelley did not live to see my mother's children, the oldest of which was born on her daughter's birthday, May 11. From my mother's stories about her she was a woman of great courage, strength of character and moral values. She had an unending love and devotion for her children, caring for them alone so many years during her husband's ministerial years.

I remember mother telling me grandmother became very angry when she learned there was no money available for mother's tuition at Graceland College. She hitched up the horse and buggy and they hurriedly trotted off to the College. She called on the President and insisted there must be a way to find money to enroll mother, daughter of one of the highest officials of the church. The President readily agreed and he did find a way. Mother soon enrolled in the School of Music studying Piano.

I was very young when Grandfather Kelley died. I remember seeing a man with a beard lying in a big white bed. My mother had taken me to his bedside so he could see me for one last time. I learned from others that he was a magnetic speaker. He held his congregations with rapt attention. A generous man, he would, literally, "give his clothes off his back" to some one in desperate need, as reported by his colleagues. However, his family didn't fare so well because of such generosity.

Oscar and Ella Belle (Kelley) Anderson . . .

How can I do justice to a quick remembrance of my mother and father, a wonderfully exemplary couple, reserved, good-natured, never a cross word between them, loving and devoted to each other, with a charm and grace that magnetized the family, friends and strangers alike, strong in the faith of the church in which they had both grown from childhood. Mother with beautiful blue Irish eyes and a gentle sparkling wit. Father, a true gentleman, jovial, youthful in manner, the brisk walk of a man anxious to grapple with the problems of the day. The single rose which he brought to her every Saturday at the end of his week's work.

The Anderson boys always laughed and joked and enjoyed being together. A favorite nephew, young Duane Anderson, always chuckled as he told this story: During a Sunday afternoon drive with Uncle Oscar, "we were riding along and suddenly a man on horseback passed us." What a laugh they all had!

Reading the narration my father wrote after seeing the wondrous sight of Lake Michigan while at the Chicago World's Fair (1893). He and his friend, two young neophytes, agreed, "This must look just like the Pacific Ocean!" Would they ever really see it?

Discovering a bundle of essays of my mother's, magnificent in their philosophical and structural content. Written by a high school and college student, they gained her honorable mention in intellectual attainments.

Kelley and Richard (Dick) . . .

My brothers were always good to me, but they did tease. Mother would remind me that they "tease you because they love you." When I asked to learn to ride a bicycle, Dick promised to teach me, but we must start early, five o'clock in the morning, when no one could see us, and use the labyrinth of sidewalk around the church at the opposite end of the block.

One day the two brothers were allowed to go to the County Fair. They brought home a present for me - a big fluff of pink cotton candy. The next morning when they gave it to me, it was nothing but a hard little ball like a marble. I could go on and on, but space is limited.

Marion, Doris, William Lea, and Ardith . . .

And then one day I came home from school, when I was ten, surprised to see our four little cousins, beautiful children, two girls and two boys, (mother's nieces and nephews) sitting on little chairs in the kitchen, drinking milk. I thought they had come to visit - but soon learned their mother had died, and they had come to live with us.

The "children" quickly fit into the busy household and became favorites of the community. Soon my parents became "Aunt Belle and Uncle Oscar" to all their playmates. These names continued to stay with them for many years. All four cousins grew to adulthood. Marion and Doris still live, William Lea was a victim of World War II and Ardith succumbed after a series of illnesses.

Prior to living with us, Doris came frequently to visit. I was appointed to entertain her in the only way she wanted: to walk to and fro on the cement sidewalk, and go up and down the stairs in our house, all of which she couldn't do at home. We did this for hours!

An unforgettable statement from William Lea, "Buddy" about ten

years old. Sunday School bored him. One Sunday he learned he needn't go to Sunday School. His reply, "This is the best day of my life. I've been waiting ten years to hear this!"

Ardith whose frail health prevented her from attending school regularly was allotted a large corner of our living room for "her playhouse" This way she could participate in household activities, but at her own pace.

There's not enough room to mention all the things Marion said and did. A favorite: visiting my parents on a Sunday after their move from Lamoni, he was treated with: Breakfast in bed with the comic section. On the breakfast tray was a favorite, a glass of ice-cold grape juice. With a deep sigh he said: "Oh, Aunt Belle, I sure do make a pet out of you, don't I?" Indeed he did.

As a teenager while dressing to have his photograph taken Marion brushed and brushed his hair but it wouldn't stay in place. In exasperation somewhere he found some Karo syrup. It did the trick. His was a beaming picture of success! The Karo Kid!

O. Kelley Jr. . . .

At age nine "Kel," as the family called him, came to Des Moines with his parents to visit Grandmother and Grandfather - I was there, too. Kel, and I were responsible for preparing the refreshments for a party. As he helped me fix plates of brownies - always his favorite - find the gingerale for another favorite, gingerale & grape juice, he heaved a sigh and said, "Grandmother sure does know what people like, doesn't she?"

Genevieve and Oscar III . . .

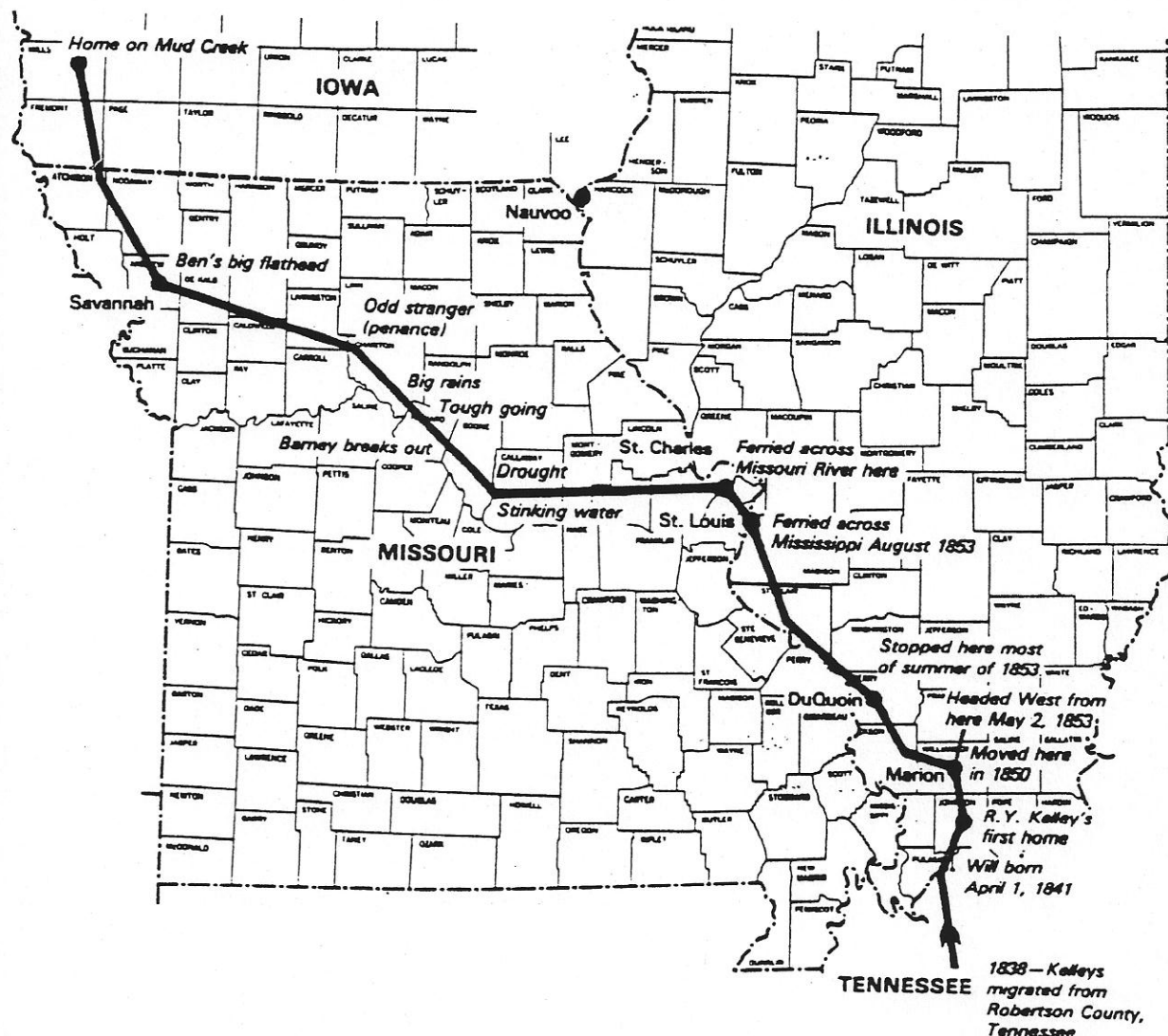
Oscar was only a few weeks old when I went to see him for the first time. Her mother was not at home so Genevieve was my hostess. "You came to see my baby?" "Yes" She sat watching me closely as I hovered over him while he was sleeping. As I reached to touch his hand, in a grown up voice she said, "We must be careful when we touch him, we could hurt him." Yes, of course.

As a 3-year old Oscar attended pre-school. Proudly displaying a "painting" he had done at school he informed me that before he went to the school there were no pictures on the wall, but now there were many!

Margaret . . .

From Iowa to New York City, twenty-five years of unforgettable experiences, interesting jobs, fascinating people, dear friends, two marriages and a return to Iowa, the exhilaration of travel, world cruise at the peak - how it expands one's life. The future looks great . . .

Now That This Gargantuan Task Is Completed!



THE RICHARD YANCEY KELLEY MIGRATIONS

Page 1
 of 1
 Post Office *Plummer*

1	2	3	Description			7	8	9	10
			Age	Sex	Color, { White, black, or mulatto }				
		The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.				Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.			
705	707	David Hayton	64	M		Farmer	800	500	
		Polly "	46	F					"
		Thomas "	37	M		Farmer	150	200	"
		Catherine "	15	F					Da
		Emmabelle "	10	"					"
711	718	R. Kelly	46	M		Farmer	5000	300	Farmer
		Sarah E. "	46	F					Da
		B. E. F. "	33	M		Farmer		125	Son
		Edna "	25	"		"			"
X		William "	15	"					"
		Mary "	16	F					"
		Edmund "	11	M					"
		W. K. "	13	"					"
		Parky P. "	11	"					"
		James M. "	7	"					"

RICHARD YANCY AND FRANCES (BALLOWE) KELLEY

WITH EIGHT OF NINE CHILDREN
 (Youngest child died a few weeks after birth)

1860 CENSUS - JOHNSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

(Note: Data recorded according to information provided to the census taker at the time he visited the family. Oftentimes, if the family was not home, a neighbor would provide the information. For this reason many errors are found in census records.)

Lamoni, Iowa, April 19, 1900.

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE NOW IN SESSION AT LAMONI, IOWA, GREETING:-

I regret to be compelled to notify the Conference that from the present outlook it will be impossible for me to continue a constant laborer in the ministerial field much longer. I have a wife and eight children dependent. Four of the children are in their most expensive period and the other four fast approaching it. Whatever others may be able to do, I cannot feed, clothe and school young girls entering the period of young women--in their teens-- or boys approaching their majority, on \$5.00 per month. When children were smaller and fewer in number we could shift in a way, and so manage to move along. Now it is out of the question.

Deficiencies have been made up in the past from private means to meet expenses until we have now entered the danger line and cannot do so longer.. We have tried Lamoni now, as a change or experiment, and so far have not been relieved in that line.

The church has a rule established to go by. I do not desire the rule changed on my account. I do not ask to be released, but that thus being forced from necessity into secular work in order to make up deficiencies to family allowance, ^{ask} that I be relieved from all blame or censure for accepting offered opportunities to raise means otherwise to cover expenses until such time as there may be a change in my circumstances to such an extent that the church may feel justified in meeting expenses. It is a trying condition to be left in to be all the time impressed with the thought that you are running behind financially and on to wreck and ruin--no way of escape.

Being anxious over matters of this kind, disables a person from doing the work properly that he has in hand. It keeps him worried and his mind diverted from the chief work, ^{he} is engaged in, and I see no way out of it but to submit this for your consideration in order that I may be relieved from all blame, or accused of not being sound in the faith or disinterested, because of an endeavor to help myself.

Respectfully,

Wm H Healy

CIVIL WAR DAYS BY Wm. H. KELLEY

The following narrative was written sometime between the close of the Civil War in 1865 and the author's death in 1915. It bears no date. Presumably it was written in his later years. It is a day to day account of his life as a footsoldier in the War of the Rebellion. These experiences were encompassed between the time the writer enlisted in November, 1864, and his discharge in August, 1865. This is an exact copy of the narrative as written by the author. - W.H.K.

I enlisted on or about the 14th or 15th of Nov. 1864 at Council Bluffs, Iowa. Left Council Bluffs for Davenport Iowa Nov. 16 in company with about 40 others in charge of Marshal Adams. Arrived at Davenport 22 and was consigned to the soldiers barax.

About the 28th or 29th of Nov. I left Davenport in company with 250 other soldiers, in charge of Major Marshall. I think his given name was Wm. Not certain, for 13th Regiment, 17th Army Corps of Sherman's Army.

We went direct to Nashville, Tenn., which was then in a state of siege by Gen. Hood. Gen. Thomas Commander of the Union forces. We could not pass to Sherman's army but were ordered to aid in the conflict going on at Nashville, and were camped on the open field and commenced duty.

Early in the morning of the 14th we were ordered to Fort Neg-lies (?) in the line of battle, as the conflict had commenced. The battle lasted about 3 days and Hood was defeated.

Our regular company and regiment to which we were assigned were with Sherman. We could not pass the lines and reach him. A temporary regiment was formed and also company to which assigned, the regiment consisting of about 75 men. Major Marshall in command, and we were ordered to Decatur, Alabama to cut off Hood's retreat across the Tennessee River. I was in Comp. E.

Dec. 17 we left Nashville for Murphysborough 30 miles, arrived next day near the town, all exhausted, it having rained all day the first day's march and terribly cold on the second. We had no rations but a little hardtack and coffee. That was exhausted. The 19th we drew some fresh meat and was immediately ordered to march out into an open field where we had to stay all day in the cold and nothing to eat but this raw beef without salt. This exposure and raw meat brought on diarrhea and fever. There was no place for refreshments or rest. We then got aboard the cars, where we remained near a week. 75 men in a box car, cold, and I was sick but able to keep with the company.

On Dec. 25th we left the cars and marched to Decatur, wading streams, through the wet and swampy, and on the 25th arrived at Decatur. The rebels vacated it this day. I was sick with chills and fever and diarrhea. Could not keep up with company and remained camp at night. I was sick all night. Next day I could not

without having secured rations, only as we foraged, and the country had been scoured by both armies. It was a matter of life and death. To give up was to be left and killed. It rained and my body was kept constantly wet. Rheumatism set in with other things, and it was with difficulty I reached the train on return.

We then returned to Nashville by R.R. I was sick with Rheumatism and a severe cough and fever. Out of 75 men in our company who left Nashville Dec. 17th but 25 returned.

Jan. 19 we left Nashville on the steamer Greyslip (?) and were sent down the Cumberland and up the Ohio River to Louisville, having started to meet Sherman at Savannah, Georgia via N.Y. Arrived at Louisville Jan. 24 and I was sent to the U.S. Transport Hospital, No. 1. My company went on and I saw them no more until after the war closed. I was here 14 days. Orders came for Sherman's men to be sent on. I was asked if I could go, and I said yes. So I started Feb. 10th via Indianapolis, Pittsburg, Harrisburg, and New York City. Arrived there Feb. 14th.

On the 15th moved to Fort Woods on Bedloe Island, N.Y. Harbor. As there about ten days convalescing. Left N.Y. Feb. 26th. On 2d day of March I arrived by steamship at Hilton Head on Broad River, South Carolina. On the 3d we sailed for Blair's ferry, 35 miles up the River. Here was sent to camp.

About the 18th, after being on picket 24 hours lying on the damp ground, I was taken with a relapse of sickness. Heavy cold on lunis, pain in side, fever, and violent pains all through my system, especially right side. I lay seven days in tent attended by physician, and was then sent to the field hospital. From here I was sent to Beaufort, South Carolina, 50 miles distant. About the 25th of March was placed in the hospital. Don't remember the name. I was treated by several physicians here and came near dying. Was attacked with chronic diarrhea also. Remained here until the 7th of May.

On the 8th of May I left Beaufort on the Transport Hospital boat General Bones (?) for Washington City. Here I was transferred to the Hospital named Finley I believe, but not certain. It was situated something like 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 miles northeast of the Capitol as I remember it. May have forgotten as to the direction of the five points as related to the Capitol. I was sick and under doctor's care all the time I was here. July 4th I was in Washington, discharged August 7th. Was urged by the physician to ask for a pension. Was scarcely able to move around when discharged.