

## A LIFE SKETCH.

### Death of Mother Mackley and a Review of the Family History.

On the 7th of last month, Sister Sarah Oyler Mackley, of the 16th Ward of this city, one of the oldest and most faithful members of the Church, passed from life, the cause of her death being old age and dropsy. She was born in Adams County, Pa., Dec. 8, 1800; was baptized into the Church by Elder Parley P. Pratt, in the year 1833, in New Portage, Ohio. Concerning her history and that of her family, Brother John Lytle, of St. George, an intimate acquaintance, has written the following sketch:

"I became acquainted with Brother Jeremiah Mackley and his wife Sarah Oyler Mackley, at Norton Township, Medina County, Ohio, in the spring of 1836. They at that time were members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I at that time was not a member of that Church but became a member on the 17th of May of that year.

On the 27th of April, 1837, with my own family, and the Mackley family, consisting of father and mother, and five children (four girls and a boy), I started from Ohio to Missouri, the gathering place of the Saints. We settled about three miles from Far West. Here another daughter (Julia Ann) was born.

In consequence of persecutions, we with many others of the Saints, left Missouri, in February, 1839 for Illinois. While at Quincy, Ill., the babe Julia Ann died. We arrived at and settled in Commerce, afterwards called Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois. Here two more daughters, Sarah and Alvina, were added to the family.

In the summer of 1840 the eldest daughter, Barbara, died.

In 1841 this family lost by death their father, he having taken sick with chills and fever in the fall of 1839, and continued thus afflicted, more or less, till death released him from his sufferings. The daughter Alvina, before mentioned, was not born till after his death.

The family, now consisting of mother and six children, continued to reside in Nauvoo, till we were driven out by the mob in February, 1846. The widow and her children crossed the river to the sickly camp of the Saints near Montrose, stayed there for a short time, and then with the Saints journeyed westward. While at Farmington, Iowa, the four elder children, three girls and a boy, through poverty, had to go out to work in different families, for board and clothing.

The mother and her two youngest little daughters, Sarah and Alvina, continued on towards Kaneshville, but while en route following up the trail of the driven Saints, when near Mount Pisgah, this poor, afflicted, bereaved and poverty-stricken widow had to pass through the terrible ordeal of having her little daughter Sarah stolen from her. Diligent search was made by the frenzied mother and sympathizing co-religionists, but without avail; and this noble woman, with unfaltering faith in God, continued her journey westward, having now with her but her youngest little darling, who had never known a father.

They, in due course, arrived at Kaneshville, where they remained till removed to Utah, with others of the poor and helpless saints, by teams sent from Great Salt Lake City for that purpose.

Through all these trials and afflictions, this worthy woman exhibited untiring energy and industry to provide for herself and those dependent upon her; maintaining her integrity to the Gospel of Christ; practicing self-denial, and for the Gospel sake, and withholding no sacrifice. And, at last, thanks be to God who gave her the victory, she died firm and devoted to her faith in God, and in every principle which He has revealed through His Prophets in these last days.