

Gilbert Belnap attended the trials held by the courts of the territory of Missouri, in which the Prophet, Joseph Smith appeared to defend the rights of his people, who had been denied the right of voting by the Missourians. In fulfillment of the Lord's plan, the citizens of Missouri determined that the Saints should not dwell in their midst because of their unpopular religion. The Prophet was summoned before the courts of the territory. Many false accusations were brought against him. According to the records on file in that county, a certified copy of which Hyrum Belnap secured in 1908, the despised but divinid Prophet, Joseph Smith, was found Guiltless. However, Governor Thomas Ford required a surrender of this band of worshippers of the Savior of the world.

Gilbert and Adaline Knight Belnap, by their spoken and written word testify that they heard the Prophet say, just previous to his martyrdom, "I am going like a lamb to the slaughter, but I am calm as a summer's morning. I have a conscience void of offence towards God and towards all men. I SHALL DIE INNOCENT, AND IT SHALL YET BE S'ID OF ME, HE WAS MURDERED IN COLD BLOOD."

In company with others, Gilbert Belnap, was with the prophet with he was lodged in the Carthage Jail. He recalled distinctly the exportation of the Prophet from the Carthage Jail window, for them to go to their homes to protect their families.

Altho the Governor and his troops the Carthage Greys, promised them protection, the Prophet Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum were cowardly martyred, and Elder John Taylor wounded, June 27, 1844. Willard Richards escaped unhurt.

Like the early Christians, after the crusifixion of Christ, our Lord, these Latterday Saints were left without a leader. Imagine the bitterness of their sorrow!

As Mary and Martha of old hastened with spices and ointments to the sepulchre of the Savior, so also Martha McBride Knight was one of the first women to view the lifeless, mortal body of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and his blood stained clothes after the awful tragedy. She obtained a lock of his hair, which she kept and treasured until her demise.

The scenes of the fidelity of the Saints, the apostacy of many, the falling of the mantle of Joseph Smith upon Brigham Young, the sustaining of the new Prophet, leader and pioneer, Brigham Young are vividly described, written and verbally by Gilbert and Adaline Belnap.

EPISODE VI.

THE MARRIAGE OF GILBERT AND ADALINE KNIGHT BELNAP

Place, Nauvoo, Ill.

Time, 1845.

Gilbert Belnap, Howard Knight Belnap

Almira Knight, Annie Lowe Coolbear

Adaline Knight, Jewel Balnap.

Rizpah, Adaline Coolbear Harmon

Heber C. Kimball, Lovell Belnap.

James Knight, Fielding Kimball.

Abigail McBride, Mary Belnap Lowe.

Martha McBride Knight, Flora Belnap.

Others

Narrator:

A new era dawned for Gilbert Belnap