

Revolutionary War, Other Records to Go Online As Part of New Program

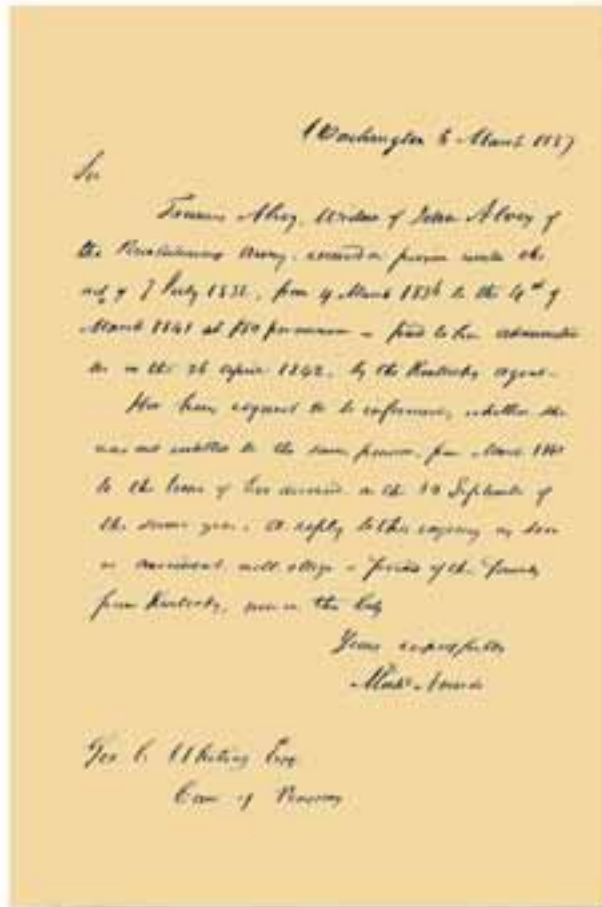
A treasure trove of U.S. Revolutionary War records will soon be at the fingertips of millions of family history researchers, thanks in large part to FamilySearch, a nonprofit genealogical organization sponsored by the Church.

A historic project to digitize and index the pension records of U.S. Revolutionary War veterans will make genealogical information readily available online, including to the millions of Americans who are descended from those soldiers who fought for independence.

According to researchers, the military pension records now being digitized and indexed are incredibly valuable due to the amount of detail and the variety of information they include.

The federal government and some state governments granted pensions to officers, disabled veterans, needy veterans, widows or orphans of veterans, and veterans who served a certain length of time, and access to such information about an ancestor is a researcher's dream.

The Revolutionary War began on April 19, 1775, at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, between the local militia and British troops and ended officially with the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1783. The eight-year military struggle generated a tremendous volume of



An example of an American Revolutionary War pension record. These records will soon be available through FamilySearch.org and Footnote.com.

records on the approximately 250,000 military participants.

When complete, the images and indexes of this vast collection of information will be viewable at the more than 4,500 Church-run family history centers around the world. They will also be available online at the Church Web site FamilySearch.org, as well as through project partner Footnote.com.

Footnote.com is a

genealogy Web site working with FamilySearch to preserve digitally, index, and publish the world's records in concert with archives around the world. As part of the agreement, FamilySearch will digitize the images currently held in the National Archives Record and Administration's (NARA) collection in Washington, D.C., and Footnote.com will create the electronic indexes.

The Revolutionary War Pension Records project is the first of many future projects the Church will undertake to expedite access to historical records. The new Records Access program initiated by FamilySearch will result in an increase of online databases around the world, according to FamilySearch officials.

"Records custodians worldwide are experiencing growing pressure to provide access to their records online while maintaining control and ownership," said Wayne Metcalfe, director of Records Services for the Family and Church History Department.

"At the same time, Web sites that provide digitizing and publishing services are struggling with the staggering costs. The new Records Access program takes advantage of FamilySearch's resources and creates an economical and effective forum where records custodians and genealogy Web sites can work together to accomplish their respective objectives."

FamilySearch's new Records Access program provides tools and assistance to records custodians who want to publish their collection using state-of-the-art digital cameras, software, and Web-based applications.

FamilySearch has representatives worldwide who can work with archivists to determine how FamilySearch and affiliates can help them meet their digital preservation and publication needs.

The Church's interest and commitment to records preservation dates back to the 1800s. ■

New Mission Presidents Now in Place Worldwide

Accepting assignments from the First Presidency, 117 new mission presidents began serving on or around July 1, 2007. The missions and their respective new presidents are:

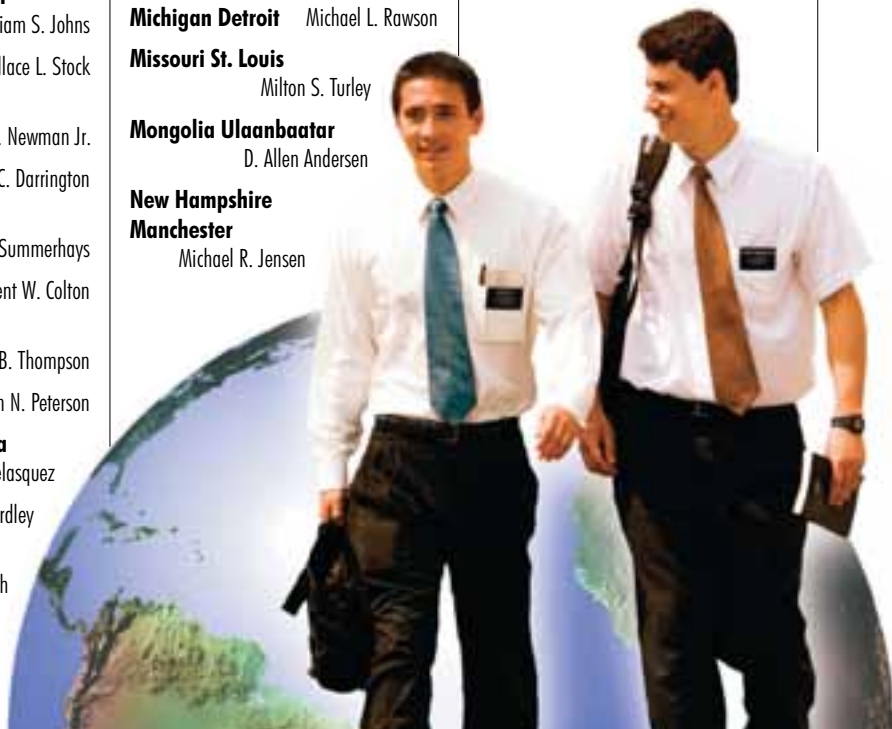
Mission President

Alabama Birmingham James R. Tate
Argentina Buenos Aires North Shane V. Argyle
Argentina Buenos Aires South Ronald W. Asay
Argentina Cordoba Stephen L. Olsen
Arizona Mesa W. Mark Bassett
Arizona Tempe Robert C. Craig
Armenia Yerevan Ronald J. Dunn
Australia Brisbane Grant S. Richards
Australia Melbourne East Corey B. Lindley
Australia Melbourne West Barry Lee
Australia Perth Carl R. Maurer
Australia Sydney North H. E. Scruggs Jr.
Bolivia La Paz Ismael Mendoza Regino
Bolivia Santa Cruz Kevin D. McCracken
Brazil Campinas Ildefonso de Castro Deus
Brazil Curitiba Paulo M. Araujo
Brazil Goiânia Vaguiner C. Tobias
Brazil João Pessoa David G. Fernandes
Brazil Londrina Luiz M. Leal
Brazil Santa Maria Rodrigo Myrrha
California Carlsbad Richard B. Brady
California Long Beach Edwin A. Sexton
California Los Angeles Spencer (Tim) G. Blackburn

California San Bernardino David T. Sanchez
Canada Edmonton George F. Rhodes Jr.
Canada Montreal Joel H. McKinnon
Canada Toronto West Jeffrey T. Simmons
Chile Antofagasta Juan A. Urrea Gomez
Chile Concepción Oscar W. Chavez Lopez
Chile Rancagua Esteban G. Resek
Chile Santiago West Paul A. Jones
Colombia Barranquilla Robin O. Roundy
Colorado Denver South Earl L. Christison III
Czech Prague Marvin J. Slovacek Jr.
Democratic Republic of Congo Kinshasa Donald H. Livingstone
Denmark Copenhagen Douglas J. Olason Sr.
Ecuador Guayaquil South William S. Johns
England Leeds Wallace L. Stock
Florida Jacksonville Russell A. Newman Jr.
Florida Orlando John C. Darrington
Florida Tallahassee Lynn L. Summerhays
Florida Tampa Kent W. Colton
Germany Hamburg Wesley B. Thompson
Hawaii Honolulu Stephen N. Peterson
Honduras San Pedro Sula Samuel Cruz Velasquez
Idaho Boise John W. Yardley
Illinois Chicago South Richard B. Roach
Illinois Peoria Lynn G. Erickson
India Bangalore Melvin R. Nichols

Indiana Indianapolis David L. Corey
Indonesia Jakarta Ross Hawkins Marchant
Iowa Des Moines G. Lyle Talbot
Ireland Dublin Gordon W. Creer
Italy Catania James A. Toronto
Italy Milan J. Scott Dunaway
Italy Rome Jeffrey Acerson
Japan Nagoya Bruce F. Traveller
Kenya Nairobi William H. Taylor
Korea Daejeon Alan G. Perriton
Korea Seoul West Craig P. Burton
Mexico Chihuahua Edgar Flores Prieto
Mexico Culiacán Marion R. Johnstun
Mexico Guadalajara Robert J. Watkins
Mexico León Robert T. Cox
Mexico Mérida Victor M. Cardenas Lopez
Mexico Mexico City East Russell G. Bulloch
Mexico Mexico City West J. Francisco Fuentes Corpus
Mexico Monterrey East Daniel Mendoza Regino
Michigan Detroit Michael L. Rawson
Missouri St. Louis Milton S. Turley
Mongolia Ulaanbaatar D. Allen Andersen
New Hampshire Manchester Michael R. Jensen

New Jersey Cherry Hill Bruce H. Winegar
New Mexico Albuquerque Richard J. Anderson
New York Rochester Michael F. Hemingway
Nicaragua Managua Romel E. Fraatz
Nigeria Port Harcourt Loveday I. Nwankpa
Nigeria Uyo Joseph W. Sitati
Ohio Cincinnati Gregory V. Robbins
Oklahoma Oklahoma City James R. Gee
Panama Panama City Manuel Madrigal Romero
Paraguay Asuncion North Terry L. Wade
Pennsylvania Philadelphia Michael R. Murray
Perú Arequipa David J. Davis
Perú Lima North Carlos A. Perez Basso
Perú Trujillo Alejandro Mora Arauco
Philippines Cagayan de Oro Remegio E. Meim Jr.
Philippines Cauayan Raul S. Villanueva



Philippines Naga Mark A. Ferrin
Philippines Quezon City
 Beaver T. Ho Ching
Poland Warsaw Torben Engbjerg
Puerto Rico San Juan East
 Ralph L. Dewsnup
Puerto Rico San Juan West
 J. Stanley Martineau
Russia Moscow Charles D. Cranney
Russia Novosibirsk Hal E. Mickelsen
Russia Samara Randall K. Bennett
Russia Vladivostok Stanley E. Everett
Russia Yekaterinburg
 Stephen J. Allen

Sierra Leone Freetown
 Phillip L. Squires
South Africa Durban Steven H. Mann
Spain Málaga Robert L. Mellor
Switzerland Zürich
 Dietmar G. Matern
Taiwan Taichung Michael A. Hoer
Texas Fort Worth
 Wright Jenkins Thurston
Texas McAllen Gary F. Miller
Texas San Antonio Charles L. Cutler
Tonga Nuku'alofa Lynn C. McMurray
Ukraine Dnepropetrovsk
 Leonard M. Abraham

Uruguay Montevideo West
 Steven K. Peterson
Utah Salt Lake City W. Blake Sonne
Utah Salt Lake City South
 G. Steven Laney
Virginia Richmond Mark B. Millburn
Washington D.C. North
 L. Alma Mansell
Washington Everett
 Donald L. Showalter III
Washington Kennewick
 Paul M. Belnap
Washington Seattle Craig M. Moffat
Wisconsin Milwaukee
 William A. Barrett ■

Without it, there might have been complications. It was very exciting; the training puts everything else in perspective. As far as I am concerned, it instills confidence. I now know exactly what to do. There is no panic.”

Gaining confidence to respond in the critical seconds after birth is the stated goal of neonatal resuscitation, according to Deb Whipple, a nurse in the newborn intensive care unit at LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City and a frequent participant in the worldwide training initiative. “I know the procedures work,” Sister Whipple acknowledged. “I’ve seen them save lives within those first valuable 30 to 60 seconds.”

Sister Whipple uses her skills daily in the hospital delivery room but also shares her expertise internationally with other medical professionals. “The neonatal resuscitation course is taught to 50 students who . . . return to their clinics, hospitals, and neighborhoods to teach other birthing attendants,” she said.

Participating countries are selected based on infant mortality rates, according to Dean Walker of Humanitarian Services, manager of the newborn resuscitation initiative. Teaching clinics are scheduled through local ministries of health in the participating countries, and training kits—including practice mannequins, training manuals, and resuscitation equipment—are donated by the Church. In 2006, training courses were offered in 23 countries.

Church Teaching Life-Saving Techniques to Health Professionals around World

Dr. Bulane, a staff physician at the Makoanyane Military Hospital in Maseru, Lesotho, deals daily with a shortage of trained medical personnel and supplies. The people of Lesotho, a landlocked country in southern Africa, suffer from an HIV/AIDS infection rate of nearly 30 percent, a 34.4-year life expectancy, recurring drought, poverty, and a high infant mortality rate.

Because of his concern for infant mortality, Dr. Bulane registered for a training program in neonatal resuscitation conducted in his community by the Humanitarian Services Division of the Church.

This program, an attempt to reduce infant deaths from birth asphyxia (a lack of oxygen at birth), is conducted in many parts of the world as an ongoing humanitarian initiative of the Church and as a response to the World



An Egyptian doctor trains nurses on how to resuscitate an infant.

Health Organization’s concern for infant deaths.

Soon after participating in the June 2006 training session, Dr. Bulane saved a newborn baby boy by implementing his new techniques. “The mother had

excess water, and a cesarean section was performed,” he explained. “Her baby was born blue. Through neonatal resuscitation techniques, the baby was saved. He is doing great now. I used the time line I had been taught.

Physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, and other medical professionals volunteer their time to staff the resuscitation trainings.

For Dr. Ted Kimball, an emergency room physician at the University of Utah Hospital in Salt Lake City and chair of the Humanitarian Services advisory committee, the role as a facilitator in addressing health issues in developing countries brings multiple rewards.

“These people live simple lives,” Dr. Kimball noted. “They don’t need flat-screen TVs or computers. They have three basic needs: a chance for education, a chance for health, and an opportunity for peace or freedom from political strife. Neonatal resuscitation plays a critical role in two of these needs: education and health. Our training makes a contribution.”

The minister of health in Uganda, a recent participant in neonatal resuscitation training, told Dr. Kimball that each infant death in his country creates an estimated U.S. \$100,000 deficit to his country’s economy. “In these areas where grinding poverty exists,” Dr. Kimball said, “they need a healthy, educated workforce to carry the people out of poverty. A healthy, self-reliant community is the key. Without loss of life at birth, there’s another back to carry the economic load of the country—another person leading the way out of poverty.”

The neonatal resuscitation training concerns in Ghana

mirror those of Lesotho and Uganda. Dr. David Gourley, a Salt Lake City physician and member of the Humanitarian Services advisory committee, reported that “a simplified course designed for rural midwives and community nurses will provide basic resuscitation skills and equipment necessary to lower Ghana’s infant mortality rate.”

Dr. Gourley related the following account from a recently trained midwife: “Dora attended a breech delivery. She thought the baby was dead because he

was floppy and not breathing. Dora went through the initial steps of resuscitation. She needed only to correctly position the baby’s airway and suction with a bulb syringe before the baby began breathing and tone improved. Today the baby is thriving.”

Based on local evaluations, Dr. Gourley noted that in the six months following the May 2006 Ghana training, 646 infants were successfully resuscitated using the basic equipment donated by the Church.

The equipment and the training contribute to the neonatal resuscitation program’s long-term goal that a qualified birth attendant be present at every delivery.

For Sister Whipple, a mother herself, the goal is broader. “I want all those babies to have a healthy body to experience life,” the nurse concluded. “Mothers have the same emotions worldwide—they all have the hope that their child will be healthy and have the opportunity to be happy, to be a part of a family.” ■

New Triple Combinations Available in Three Languages

For the first time, Tongan-, Haitian-, and Cambodian-speaking members of the Church will have a triple combination in their own language.

The triple combinations consist of complete editions of the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, the Pearl of Great Price, and the Guide to the Scriptures. Maps and photographs are also included.

The Book of Mormon in Tongan has been available since 1946, and the Doctrine and Covenants and Pearl of Great Price since 1959, but the publication of the triple combination marks the first time that all three books have been bound together into one volume.

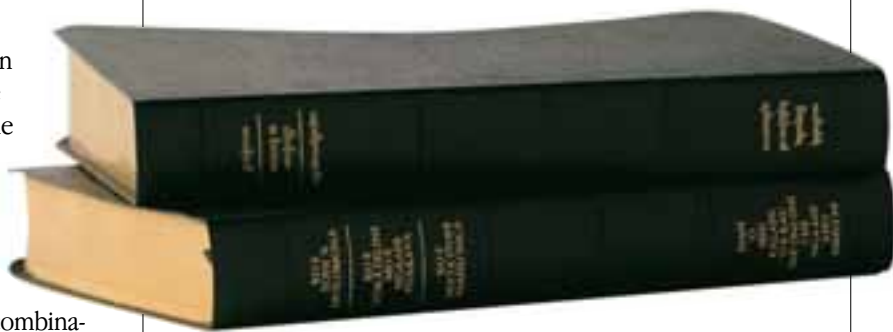
Although the Book of

Mormon in Haitian has been available since 1999, the Doctrine and Covenants and Pearl of Great Price were not available until the release of the triple combination.

In August 1982, Book of Mormon Selections was printed in Cambodian; then in November 2001 a version of the Book of Mormon without footnotes was printed.

Teams of translators, reviewers, and ecclesiastical leaders work together to translate the scriptures into a chosen language. The length of time it takes to complete the process varies.

The First Presidency has encouraged members to acquire their own scriptures to be used for regular study, Church meetings, and assignments. ■



The triple combination, containing complete editions of the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, the Pearl of Great Price, and other study aids, is now available in Cambodian, Haitian, and Tongan.

New DVD Released for Children

A new Home and Family Collection DVD has recently been released. *Old Testament Stories for Children* contains the still images and narration from the *Old Testament Stories* book.



The Old Testament Stories book is now available on DVD for children.

The DVD includes English subtitles to aid new or beginning readers. The 48 stories contained on the DVD help introduce the teachings of the Old Testament. It can be used to supplement or reinforce Primary lessons, teach those with mental disabilities, and teach children at home, either as part of a lesson or for independent use by children.

Sold individually for U.S. \$4.50 (item number

00350) or U.S. \$75.00 for a case of 50 DVDs, the product is available at distribution centers. ■

Comment

Examples of Missionary Work

Thank you so much for the brief stories about missionary work (March 2007 Latter-day Saint Voices). Reading experiences that testify of Heavenly Father's tender mercies as we share the gospel brings me greater hope and encourages me to be sensitive to the Spirit. Sister Shannon Miller, New York Utica Mission

Teaching Children about General Conference

About two years ago a pre-conference issue of the *Ensign* contained an article by a single mother telling how she prepares conference baskets for her children when they spend general conference weekends at their father's house. (See "Random Sampler," *Ensign*, Oct 2005, 70–71.) One of her suggestions to help small



children focus on conference was to provide simple illustrations of the conference pulpit

so that the child could draw each speaker, write the speaker's name and topic, and write his or her own feelings during the talk.

As a Relief Society secretary, I shared this idea in our branch Relief Society the month before each general conference. Now as a Primary teacher, I make a similar sheet for the CTR 5 children. Several mothers commented to me that they were going to make extra copies of the sheets for their older children as well.

Thank you for providing a forum for sharing such practical ideas to help teach children the gospel. Tena L. Cook, Nebraska

General Conference and Family Home Evening

Thank you for converting general conference talks to materials for family home evening lessons. I was awaiting my *Ensign* to try and make up lessons when I received an e-mail telling me about the General Conference and Family Home Evening Page).

How wonderful to have this resource available to use without all the work! It's also nice to have this so soon after conference so we can start reinforcing the wonderful talks and lessons given. Thank you. Cheryl Lynn Bell, Missouri

A Note on Descendancy Research

I am writing concerning George Durrant's article, "Branching Out on Your Family Tree" (April 2007). I have been doing descendancy research for 30 years and am very careful to defer to living relatives. However, Brother Durrant failed to mention the factor that impels me most. I find



that many relatives died having never had children or having had their children die before reaching adulthood, leaving no descendant. Descendancy research is the only way their temple work will be done. Catherine H. Ellis, Arizona

Clarifications

The April 2007 issue listed information for Church pageants in 2007. The phone numbers given for information on the Oakland Temple Pageant were incorrect. The correct phone numbers are 510-531-0704 or 510-531-1475.

Also in that issue, the *Ensign* reported that Elder Parley P. Pratt died and was buried in Van Buren, Arkansas. The location of his grave is actually in nearby Alma, Arkansas, where Church members regularly care for the site.