

November 26, 1994

Lesson Learned in the Temple

Grandma Winder (Ella) was very active in researching genealogy. Her father, Edward Croft, knew of the importance of temple work for our ancestors, and before he died, he asked Ella to carry on the work he had started on the Croft line. She spent many years researching records and organizing family group sheets to submit to the temple. She and Grandpa Winder, along with Aunt Ladine and Grandma (Delsie) would then make many trips to the temple to do the work for these ancestors. On some occasions, they would do three or four sessions in a day.

On one occasion when Grandma (Delsie) accompanied Grandma Winder to the Idaho Falls Temple, they went to the family-name desk to pick up the names of two of Grandma's ancestors. The lady at the desk said that during the day before, they had had so many people come to the temple, that they had to give out all of Grandma Winder's names. There were none left. Grandma Winder liked to do the work for her own ancestors and was a little upset. At first she thought they would just go back home, but finally they decided to take two names of other deceased people that the temple had ready, and they went into the chapel. While they were sitting in the chapel waiting for the rest of the people to come in for the session, Grandma Winder reached over and grabbed Delsie's leg and squeezed it for several minutes while she stared down the aisle. After awhile, she turned to Delsie, and in a whisper asked her if she had seen that lady talking with her? Delsie answered that no, she hadn't seen anyone.

Grandma Winder said that as soon as they had sat down, she heard someone calling her by name. Then she saw this very tall, big boned lady walking towards her. The lady then thanked Grandma Winder for accepting her name. She said that she had died many years ago, and had been waiting many years for her temple work to be done. She told Grandma Winder that she did not have any descendants who could do her work for her. She once again thanked Grandma for what she was doing for her and told her that she would be very close to her during the session. She then disappeared.

After relating this incident to Delsie, Grandma Winder then said that she had learned a very important lesson and would never complain about taking a name through the temple that was not one of her own ancestors, because there were many people on the other side of the veil that also needed their temple work done.