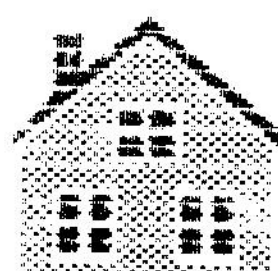


The Laketown Relief Society  
and the Relief Society

~~Meeting~~

From a letter to Cyril and  
Mary Kearl

written by Grace Lamborn  
on Jan 26, 1976



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I must go back a lot of years to when I was a little girl .  
This is a long story but history.

I remember gleaning wheat after the crop had been cut and <sub>s</sub>  
in the stack waiting for the threshers.

Mother would be wearing her big apron gathered and tied at  
the waist and we would fill it many times in many days until there  
was quite a sizeable pile waiting to be threshed and mother told  
me it was for the Relief Society. Also we gleaned wool. Whirls  
were caught on wire fences and bushes and sage brush. I don't  
know how it got there unless father had the sheep brought in to  
graze in the field after harvest, or lambs were on their way to  
market.

When I asked Mother what we were going to do with that, she said, "It was for the Relief Society." Now I didn't know who the Relief Society was and could care less. Because, you see, I was only about five years old.

However when I grew old enough to understand, Mother told me the Relief Society women were building a house on the public square to be their own building in which to hold their meetings and quilt their quilts or whatever.

She said the wheat was sold and the money put in the building fund. She cleaned and carded the wool and someone else had made a top and someone else had put together a lining.

Relief Society

Then they had a quilt for sale for a few dollars for the building fund. Also every time there was a dance (and I want to add here that all the dances were held in your Grandfather James' barn lot and he never charged one penny to the auxillary organizations.)

At these dances, the Relief Society women sold ice cream. I truly believe they originated the ice milk business. It was refreshing and a big dish for five cents, and those dear blessed determined women furnished the ingredients, did the work, and gave their children the nickles to buy the ice cream.

### Relief Society

Of course I am sure that some of the "swains" who were courting would part with a dime. Money was hard to come by in those days.

One of the most ingenuous ways our pioneer mothers of getting money was a day set aside when each member would contribute all the eggs laid that day and pool them to sell at the store.

We always laughed about that, mother and I, when I was older. But she said those eggs often brought almost \$10.00 in a month.

Well by sacrifice and work and planning and I imagine a bit of praying that one large room was finished and dedicated and that was 75 years ago.

### Relief Society

For fifty years it was used for all R. S. Meetings and little socials. Then the nice rock meeting house needed some renovating and remodeling and in the process a very nice room was built on for the Relief Society.

And when I heard of this I decided I would like to contribute to the furnishing. I went to town and selected a nice little flat top desk with drawers and pigeon holes. Something they never had before. I ordered a glass for the top and a little brass plaque which reads-

"In memory of our MOther  
Merlin E. Kearn  
from her children."

All five of my brothers were living then and I wrote that if they wished to contribute, their share would be \$8.00.

### Relief Society

Today that desk would cost three times that much. Well, if my brothers would not have responded more quickly if they had fastened their money to a homing pigeon, so if you are in Laketown sometime you might go in and look at it. It will be there many, many years to come.

Now back to business. The old R. S. building is about to be torn down if some people have their say so. However the daughters of the pioneers who live there are determined it shall stand, restored in all its glory.

Alley Johnson Taylor is the only daughter left of the women who built it.