



Lucy Mack Smith
1775 - 1856

Joseph Smith Sr. Family Reunion News

April 6, 2001 Volume 14, Number 1



Joseph Smith Sr.
1771 - 1840

Buddy Youngreen, President
Joseph Smith Sr. Family Organization
703 No. 945 West Orem, Utah 84057

16TH BIENNIAL REUNION IN SALT LAKE CITY, AUGUST 2-5, 2001 FELLOWSHIP, HISTORY, ENTERTAINMENT AND SIGHTSEEING FEATURED

Once again hundreds of descendants of Joseph Smith Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith will come together in the capacity of a family. This sixteenth gathering since 1972 will take place at the Joseph Smith Memorial Building and Historic Temple Square in Salt Lake City, August 2 thru August 5. The last time the family met in Utah was in 1995.

From 5 PM to 7 PM Thursday, August 2 the reunion will officially get underway with registration finalization and a get acquainted reception in the Nauvoo Room of the Joseph Smith Memorial Building, formerly the Hotel Utah, just east of Temple Square. Following the reception, reunion participants are invited to attend a rehearsal of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in the Historic Tabernacle on Temple Square. The 375 voice choir will perform in front of the towering pipes of the world famous Tabernacle Organ.

The next reunion session will be 9 AM to 11 AM Friday, August 3 in the chapel of the Joseph Smith Memorial Building. Welcoming speeches, oral presentations and a special display of the original Book of Mormon manuscript will be featured.

Friday afternoon the family will enjoy sight-seeing and at 5 PM an old fashioned picnic on the grounds of the LDS Branch Meetinghouse at Brighton, located in Big Cottonwood Canyon in the nearby Wasatch Mountains. Special entertainment will be presented in the adjoining redeco-

rated and refurbished Brighton Meetinghouse Cultural Hall.

From 9 AM to 11 AM Saturday, August 4 guest speakers will present topics of interest back at the Joseph Smith Memorial Building Chapel. Before adjournment of this morning meeting, the family portrait will be taken.

Saturday afternoon special interest tours will be made available for those wishing to see more of Temple Square, the Church Conference Center, Beehive House Territorial Capitol, Utah State Capital Building, Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum and other points of interest.

Saturday evening at 6:30 PM a catered banquet will be held in the nearby 26th Floor Reception Center, high atop the Church Office Building, 50 East North Temple. The view from the dining area incorporates the entire Salt Lake Valley, surrounding mountain ranges, and the Great Salt Lake to the west.

The family will attend a special performance of "The Testaments of One Fold and One Shepherd" in the Joseph Smith Memorial Theater immediately following the banquet.

Reunion participants are invited to the Mormon Tabernacle Choir broadcast on Sunday, August 6 from 9:30 AM to 10 AM. From 10 AM until

11 AM the Church Museum will be open to the family. Finally, a special memorial service honoring Joseph Smith Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith will take place in the Assembly Hall just south of the Tabernacle on Temple Square. This service will begin at 11 AM and end at 1 PM, bringing the 16th biennial reunion to a close.

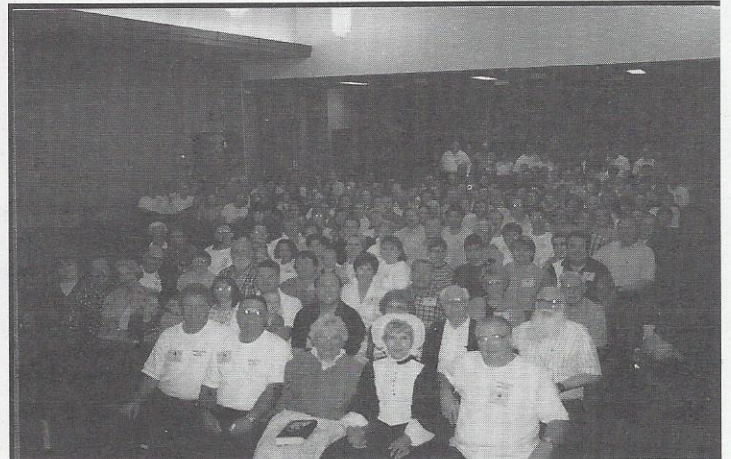
Costs for the 2001 reunion are being kept at a minimum. Housing will be provided to out of town cousins by their kinsmen living in the Salt Lake area. Reunion fees are \$20.00 per person or \$60.00 per family: family meaning spouse and dependent children only. Picnic lunch donations and reunion T-shirt costs are optional.

Reunion Expenses

In order to attend this 2001 reunion mail the enclosed registration form with applicable payment by July 9th to:

Buddy Youngreen, President
703 North 945 West
Orem, Utah 84057

Make all checks payable to Joseph Smith Sr. Family Reunion. For registration confirmation and housing information enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.



1999 FAMILY REUNION PARTICIPANTS OUTSIDE CARTHAGE JAIL AND INSIDE NAUVOO STAKE

Letters to the Editor:

ADIEU TO TWO "GOOD AND FAITHFUL" FRIENDS OF THE JOSEPH SMITH SR. FAMILY REUNIONS FOR THE PAST 30 YEARS.



Dorothy D. Dean
(1999 Reunion Photo with her nieces)
Born 22 Dec. 1901
Died 1 Nov. 1999
(Katherine Smith Great-Granddaughter)

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Dear Buddy, November 7, 1999

This is just a short note to let you know that Aunt Dotty passed away this week. You were always special in her heart, and I knew she would want you to know. Thank you especially for Aunt Dotty's "royal treatment" at the Smith Reunion this summer. She talked about that a lot!

Aunt Dotty had been in reasonably good health until last Saturday when she hemorrhaged and had to be taken quickly to the ER in the adjoining hospital. After X-rays and a few other tests, she was given two units of blood and other medications to attempt to overcome her fluid loss. She rallied nicely by Saturday PM and spent a good weekend with family and friends. John and Bernadette Brooks were there much of the time as was John and Marge Helwig. Others called their concerns via phone.

She was doing so well that on Monday I returned to her nursing home room, retrieving her Mary Kay cosmetics to "do" her face and comb her hair now that the oxygen tubes were removed. She looked particularly nice and enjoyed visiting with Mary Freeman at length about their trip to Hawaii among other things. Mary had gotten her a milkshake from the Dairy Queen--her first real food since the problem early Saturday morning. The doctor was concerned about a stomach ulcer and didn't want to aggravate her system with any more upset, but he thought the milk shake might be fine.

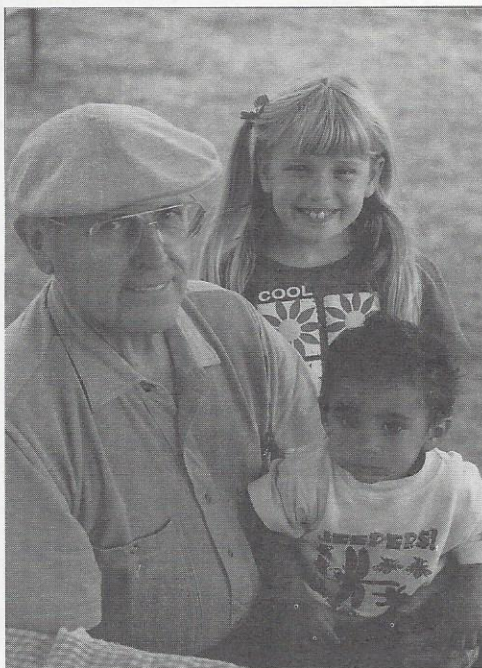
We all thought the worst was over, so we went our ways for supper only to be called back shortly that Aunt Dotty had slipped away just that fast. I think all the fluids were just too much for her heart and lungs. She supposedly began perspiring

heavily and the nurse on duty was going to wash her forehead with a cool washcloth to which Aunt Dotty replied, "Don't take off my Mary Kay." Those were her last words. Still looking pretty for all of us. You know, she had such a lovely complexion and fewer wrinkles than I!

Her mind was still so active--reciting poetry from memory, singing Christmas Carols in German, and talking in French. Her tiny body was just worn out. Her visitation was small because so many of her friends had already gone before her. We had a lovely day--weather wise--for her funeral.

She is now resting beside her mother and father and near all of her loved ones in McKay Cemetery near Burnside. She will truly be missed but never forgotten. Thank you for being a nice part of Aunt Dorothy's lifetime.

Sincerely
Romalee McKeown



Joseph Fielding Patrick
(1997 Reunion Photo with Grandchildren)
Born 4 April 1922
Died 10 Dec. 2000
(Hyrum Smith Great-Grandson)

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(We thank the Patrick family for sharing Joseph's journal account of how the Joseph Smith Sr. Family Reunion got started 30 years ago.)

In the course of researching material concerning early church characters Buddy Youngreen made some trips to Independence, Missouri, Kirtland, Ohio, Nauvoo, Illinois, Carthage, Illinois, and the surrounding areas. While there he made contact with as many people as he could who might have information about the early church leaders, with particular attention to the Prophet. He met many of the descendents of the Prophet's family and made good friends with them.

... Buddy was telling Dr. Clinton Larson, a professor of English at B.Y.U., of his reception by "the Smiths" and Dr. Larson suggested to him, "Why don't you get up a reunion of the descendents of Joseph Smith Sr. and hold it somewhere such as Nauvoo?" The thought stuck in Buddy's mind and began to grow to become almost a compulsion.

In 1971 my brother-in-law, Burnett B. Ferguson, and close friend of Buddy's suggested he contact me because I was a descendent of Hyrum Smith. Buddy called and introduced himself and then asked, "What would you think of having a family reunion of the descendents of Joseph Smith Sr. in Nauvoo, Illinois?" My immediate response was very positive and I said that I would pose the question to my mother, Edith Eleanor Smith Patrick. Mother is a daughter of President Joseph F. Smith, who is a son of Hyrum Smith. When I posed the question to Mother her reply was, "It will never work." I asked her if she would listen to Buddy present his idea to her himself and she agreed. After hearing his story Mother said, "I think it will work." I then called my uncle Willard R. Smith and his first response was exactly the same as Mother's, "It will never work." Again, I arranged for Buddy to tell his story. He, Mother, and I went to visit Uncle Willard and he said, "I think it will work" and "I must be a part of it."

During the next few months Buddy really went to work making arrangements. This included another trip east. Joseph Byron Smith, a descendent of Samuel H. Smith (also a brother of Hyrum and Joseph Smith), and also a man who had spent much of his life affiliated with the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, went with Buddy and was helpful in introducing Buddy to W. Wallace Smith, who was then the President of the Reorganized Church. After learning of the proposed reunion, W. Wallace Smith agreed to send out invitations on behalf of the members of the Prophet Joseph Smith's family. Joseph Byron signed for Samuel's family and Uncle Willard signed for Hyrum Smith's family. ... It was arranged for the reunion to be held in the third week of August, 1972, in Nauvoo, Illinois.

... Our sign-in was in the L.D.S. Visitors Center ... No one could begin to predict the outcome.

We had a series of formal meetings with very interesting material pertaining to the early family. As the time raced by we began to feel a little more relaxed and certainly felt the beginnings of new and real friendships.

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REMARKS MADE BY HORTENSE C. SMITH AT THE DEDICATION OF THE JOSEPH SR. AND LUCY MACK SMITH FAMILY MEMORIAL MONUMENT IN NAUVOO LEGACY GARDENS, NAUVOO, ILLINOIS



Hortense C. Smith speaks by the Pioneer Prophet Statue

What a wonderful occasion to gather and dedicate this Nauvoo Legacy Garden and the enduring memorial monuments now placed here and those that will subsequently be placed. It has been created as a place of beauty and culture and a spot to display special memorials to events and personalities that played a significant role in the history of Nauvoo. As you have already heard, all of this is due to the generosity, love and dream of Steve and Pat Glenn and family and to the vision and genius of Dee Jay Bawden.

How appropriate it is that the first sculpture placed is that of the Pioneer Prophet created by Dee Jay, and that it be situated at the entrance to the garden. This magnificent likeness of the Prophet Joseph with his ax tells us that he was a common man. He chopped wood, worked in the soil, planted and harvested crops, played with his children and socialized with his family and friends. He also communed with God and was the instrument in instituting the greatest movement for the betterment of mankind since the Savior was on the earth.

He was one of eleven children born to Joseph Smith Sr. and Lucy Mack and these children learned from their father and mother, very early in their lives, to love and care for one another and be unified. From the time Joseph received his assignment from the Heavenly Messengers, this family of parents and nine surviving children believed and were with him all the days of his life. They never left him. They and their families worked with him, prayed for him, supported and encouraged, served missions, endured the persecutions and the hardships, even died for him. Not one abandoned. As a result they all played a significant role in the restoration of the Gospel.

It is 203 years since Joseph married Lucy and began this remarkable family. For 203 years this, the first family of the restoration and the Church and of Nauvoo, have gone largely unheralded and

unrecognized. The dream for placing a long overdue memorial to them is that of Steve and Pat, Dee Jay, and Buddy. They came to Eldred and me to try their dream out on us, and it didn't take more than ten minutes for us to enthusiastically say, "Go for it."

The means to accomplish the project have been supplied by donors. The fence has been donated (if you knew how expensive it is you would know what a sizable donation has been made), the bronze statue, the flowers are a gift (Pat and her sister-in-law planted every one of them), the work of craftsmen, the huge Vermont granite stone and the bronze plaque...all donations from people who love and revere the Prophet Joseph and the Smith Family and who want to visibly perpetuate a tribute and memorial to them. Many have come, not once, but several times, from as far away as Utah, at their own expense, to help make this happen.

The monument speaks for itself. Imprinted here, forever after, are the likenesses of Joseph Smith Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith, noble parents of the children who are listed on the bronze plaque. From now on, you, your children and your children's children can come to this spot and point to one of the children's names and say, "that is my great grandfather or grandmother and he or she, too, gave all for the restoration of the Gospel." No longer will they be unrecognized. Read the inscription on the plaque.

This stone of beautiful Vermont granite weights 6,000 lbs. or 3 ton. Miracles have been evident in its being here today. Last Monday it was being polished at the quarry and Steve and Dee Jay got word that it could not be delivered before next Monday, thus it would miss the date of dedication. Pat said, "This can't be. We must pray." And pray they did.

Then came another phone call from the quarry, saying, "This never happens. We never have trucks leave in the middle of the week. We don't know why, but there is a truck leaving for the Midwest on Wednesday with just enough room to ship this stone." As a result it was delivered on Friday, and some of us have watched as the craftsmen made it ready for this morning. There are other miracles. We feel that Father and Mother Smith are accepting of and pleased with this effort.

The monument is not yet complete. Another bronze plaque is to be placed on the back of the stone. It will have on it the likeness of the Prophet, and the words of his prayer for his Family that are printed on the back of your programs. In that prayer are the words,....."and establish their feet upon the rock of ages." Coincidentally, the quarry from which this stone was cut is the Rock of Ages quarry. The cost of \$ 1,300 for the plaque has yet to be donated. There may be some among you who would like to make a contribution to the memorial. If so see Steve or Dee Jay.

Each of you family members will undoubtedly want to express individual gratitude for this great gift. But Steve, Pat, son Jason, Steve's brother and sister-in-law, Dee Jay, Buddy, donors, all those who have worked so diligently to accomplish this remarkable project,.....representative members of the Smith family are here, all standing. Will you look upon this as a standing ovation to you from a grateful family for your expression of love and respect that goes way beyond the ordinary? We love you!

Please, family, let us express our gratitude and admiration with a standing ovation and applause.....Thank You.



SMITH FAMILY GATHERS AT NAUVOO LEGACY GARDENS OPPOSITE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF NAUVOO TEMPLE LOT

SMITH FAMILY MONUMENT NEAR NAUVOO TEMPLE

On September 14, 1840, at age 69, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Patriarch, Joseph Smith Sr., passed away in Nauvoo, Illinois. His funeral took place the next day and his body was consigned to rest in Nauvoo's first cemetery, located in a beautiful grove on the east of the Durphy Street bluff, just south of Mulholland Street. This consecrated tract of land, known then as the Martin Hill Cemetery, came to be revered by the venerable Patriarch's son, the Prophet Joseph Smith Jr., who wrote:

"Sacred to me is his dust
and the spot where he is laid. Sa-

cred to me is the tomb I have made to encircle o'er his head."

Eighteen days after the burial of Joseph Smith Sr., during a conference of the Church in Nauvoo, October 3, 1840, Joseph Jr. initiated plans to build the Nauvoo Temple near his father's final resting place. This was confirmed in a portion of his formal revelation of January 19, 1841:

"And ye shall build it on the place where you have contemplated building it, for that is the spot which I have chosen for you to build it."



**ORIGINAL NAUVOO TEMPLE
DEDICATED 1 MAY 1846**

Sketch by Duke Major

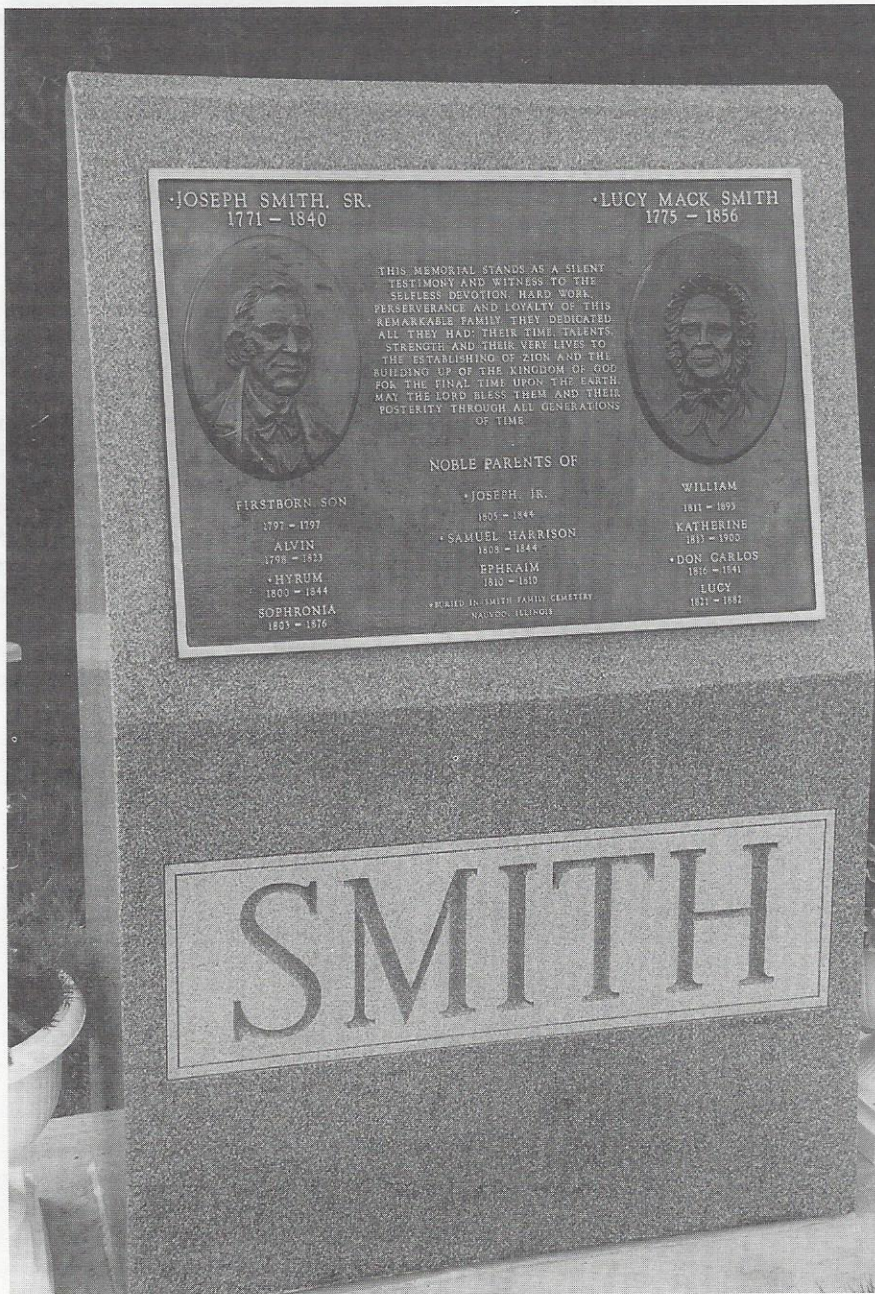
By August 23, 1842, Joseph Jr. saw to the construction of a burial vault located south of the rising temple and slightly to the west of its center. This temple lot crypt seemed to reach out toward the bluffside grave of the Patriarch. The Prophet named the vault to honor his father, **THE TOMB OF JOSEPH, A DESCENDANT OF JACOB**. He recorded:

"Let my father, Don Carlos and Alvin and children I have buried, be brought and laid in the tomb I have built. Let my mother and my brethren and my sisters be laid there also . . . and when I die let me be gathered to the tomb of my father."

Subsequent events rendered the Prophet's desires in this matter to go unfulfilled. Coffins, supposedly containing the bodies of the martyrs, Joseph Jr. and Hyrum Smith, were interred at **THE TOMB OF JOSEPH**, June 29, 1844, following their murder at Carthage, Illinois, the preceding June 27. The actual burial of the Smith brothers, and their younger martyred sibling, Samuel Harrison Smith, who followed them in death, took place later on the old Smith Homestead grounds, near a bend of the Mississippi River on Nauvoo's lower southwest flat.

After the public dedication of the Nauvoo Temple, May 1, 1846, and the exodus of the Church out of Illinois that same year, Nauvoo's cemetery was relocated east of town in 1848. About this same time, the private burial grounds for the Smith family was established on Joseph Jr.'s former old Homestead property, the final resting place of the Smith martyrs.

The first weeks of August, 1999, an appropriate 3 ton granite memorial to the Joseph Smith Sr. family was placed a short distance southeast of the original Nauvoo Temple foundation. It can be viewed today in the Nauvoo Legacy Gardens, on the corner of Mulholland and Bluff Streets. This tribute to Joseph Smith Sr., his wife and their children, bears aesthetic witness to the eternal spiritual establishment of **THE TOMB OF JOSEPH**. It will always be sacred to family members and all true believers in the Restoration.



**NAUVOO LEGACY GARDENS
3 TON SMITH FAMILY MARKER**

Joseph Smith's Last Dream

By: W. W. Phelps

Read by: Buddy Youngreen at the Smith Family
Reunion at Salt Lake City, Utah – August 4, 2001

In June 1844, when Joseph Smith went to Carthage and delivered himself up to Governor Ford, I accompanied him, and while on the way thither, he related to me and his brother Hyrum the following dream.

He said: "While I was at Jordan's in Iowa the other night, I dreamed that myself and my brother Hyrum went on board a steamboat lying in a small bay, near the great ocean. Shortly after we went on board there was an alarm of fire and I discovered that the boat had been anchored some distance from the shore, out in the bay, and that an escape from the fire, in the confusion, appeared hazardous; but, as delay was folly, Hyrum and I jumped overboard, and tried our faith at walking upon the water.

At first we sank in the water nearly to our knees, but as we proceeded we increased in faith, and were soon able to walk upon the water. On looking towards the burning boat in the east, we saw that it was drifting towards the wharf and the town, with a great flame and clouds of smoke; and, as if by whirlwind, the town was taking fire, too, so that the scene of destruction and horror of the frightened inhabitants were terrible.

We all started again, and in a short time were blest with the first sight of a city, whose gold and silver steeples and towers were more beautiful than any I had ever seen or heard of on earth. It stood, as it were, upon the western shore of the mighty deep we ere walking on, and its order and glory seemed far beyond the wisdom of man. While we were gazing upon the perfection of the city a small boat launched off from the port, and, almost as quick as thought, came to us. In an instant they took us on board and saluted us with a welcome, and with music as is not on earth.

The next scene, on landing, was more than I can describe; the greeting of old friends, the music from a thousand towers, and the light of God Himself at the return of three of His sons, soothed my soul into a quiet and a joy that I felt as if I was truly in heaven. I gazed upon the splendor; I greeted my friends. I awoke, and lo, it was a dream!

While I meditated upon such a marvelous scene, I fell asleep again, and behold I stood near the shore of the burning boat, and there was a great consternation among the officers, crew and passengers of the flaming craft, as there seemed to be much ammunition or powder on board.

The alarm was given that the fire was near the magazine, and in a moment, suddenly, it blew up with a great noise, and sank in deep water with all on board. I then turned to the country east, among the bushy openings, and saw William and Wilson Law, endeavoring to escape from the wild beasts of the forest, but two lions rushed out of a thicket and devoured them. I awoke again.