

8. Smith, *History of the Church*, 1:417.

---

## Homesteading

*Laura D. Card*

I spring from our dugout door,  
shovel blade raised,

Thrust

to sever fangs from coils;

Leap

Two feet further

to snatch infant Lydia in

quaking aspen arms

from Payson dust,

then stagger

into our one chair.

Last night a mouse

ran cross my face,

then James'.

Not one week since

four-year-old Moroni

presented a tarantula

on a juniper branch.

James shook

green scorpions from his

boot this morning

before plowing,

not the first.

There was not such

in all green England

where we owned naught.

Here we own

faith

and 160 acres.

---

## Writing Lesson, 1874, Great Basin

### No Paper

*Laura D. Card*

Charcoal twigs

scrape across small palms—

letters

copied from torn scraps

of *Deseret News*

pasted with flour and water  
onto slabs of wood.

---

## The Garden of Sarah DeArmon Pea Rich

*Laura D. Card*

The call goes out to England,  
"Bring seeds of snowball  
and potato,  
celery and hedgerow,  
plum,  
as seems you good."  
"We have  
5,000 peach seedlings  
ready to set out."  
Yet not one rose,  
until she coaxed  
Californian cuttings  
into bud.  
Laura D. Card

---

## Autumn, Olives and The Atonement

*Andrew C. Skinner*

Autumn is a magnificent time of the year in the Holy Land for many reasons. The intense heat of summer begins to dissipate. Anticipation of change permeates the air. In a normal year, the first or "early" rains usually come in September or October and bring with them the promise of desperately needed, life-sustaining moisture which come from the "regular" rains that fall November through March. With the early rains also comes the season of the olive harvest. And it is this intense activity centering on the olive harvest and oil production that points our minds and hearts to Him who is symbolized by olive culture. The autumn season of harvest, no less than the spring season of Passover, is a graphic reminder of the truth declared by Nephi that all things given of God are a typifying of Christ (2 Ne. 11:4).

The cultivation of olive vineyards and the production of olive oil have a long and honorable history in the Holy Land among all groups of Abraham's posterity. In ancient times, olive trees and olive oil played a significant role in Israel's daily life. (In more modern times, the same could also be said of Ishmael's posterity.) Evidence indicates that olive trees were even more abundant in the Holy Land in Jesus' day than today<sup>42</sup>. The olive tree acted as both a religious and a national symbol for the people of Israel, and its fruit became one of the most important domestic and exported products in the biblical period. In Old Testament times, most houses and virtually every village had a small oil press to supply families with the necessities of life deriving from olive cultivation. By New Testament times stone olive crushers and lever presses were also quite plentiful throughout the land.