Salmon Gee 1792-1845

Salmon Gee

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Salmon Gee (October 16, 1792 - September 13, 1845) was an early Mormon leader and member of the Presidency of the Seventy of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Gee was born in Lyme, Connecticut and moved to the Ashtabula, Ohio area at age 17. On December 10, 1814, he married Sarah Watson Crane. Together they had two known children. They moved to Geauga County, where Zebedee Coltrin baptized Gee in 1832. Seven months later, Sidney Rigdon ordained him an elder and Joseph Smith, Jr. appointed him leader of the Latter Day Saints in Thompson Township.^[1]

On April 6, 1837, Gee was appointed to fill the vacancy in the Presidency of the Seventy left open when Zebedee Coltrin was transferred to the high priest quorum. Sidney Rigdon and Hyrum Smith ordained him a seventy.^[1]

The Seventies Quorum removed their fellowship from Gee for "neglect of duty" at a meeting in March 1838, although he was never excommunicated. He and John Gaylord were dropped from the quorum that May.^[1]

Gee served as a member of the Kirtland High Council from 1841 to 1844, when he moved to Ambrosia, Iowa, where he died in 1845. He was buried in Nauvoo, Illinois. Before he died, he gathered his family together and "exhort[ed] them to faithfulness, advising them also to follow the Church wherever it went."^[1]

The church restored Gee's full fellowship in 1967.^[2]

[edit] References

1. ^ *a b c d* Salmon Gee. Grampa Bill. Retrieved on 2008-04-06.

2. ^ Encyclopedia of Mormonism, Vol.4, Appendix 1

~Volume 2, page 124

~Blessing of Salmon Gee, born Oct. 16, A.D. 1792, in Lyme, New London County, Ct. (Blessing by Joseph Smith, Sr.)

~Brother Gee, I lay my hands upon your head in the name of the Lord Jesus, and bless you, even with a father's blessing. And I say unto you, that if you will repent of all evil, and call upon the Lord mightily, the visions of your mind shall be opened, and you shall go forth and proclaim the gospel of peace to the wise and the learned, as you have a gift, and have many times felt it to be your duty. And now, if you will humble yourself before the Lord, and strip yourself from all hardness towards your fellow men, you shall become meek and lowly, even like your Savior. You shall be numbered with Abraham and all his spiritual seed. And you shall bring many souls into the fold of Christ, and you shall be filled with the goodness of the Lord, and the blessings of heaven, even as many as you, in righteousness can ask: and in the end you shall be received into the celestial kingdom of God. In the name of the Lord I seal all these blessings upon your head, and upon the head of your children, and your children's children: even so: Amen.

~(W.A. Cowdery assistant recorder.)

James R. Clark, Messages of the First Presidency, Vol.1, p.5 The Epistle has the style and tone of the New Testament epistles. Salmon Gee, who carried the letter and was to preside over the Church in Thompson, later became one of the First Council of Seventy. The epistle speaks of strifes, dissensions and evil spirits which were disrupting several branches of the young Church at this time. A companion letter written by John Murdock, formerly of Thompson, to Salmon Gee gives further insight into the problems mentioned in this Epistle.

It has seemed good unto the Holy Spirit and unto us, to send this our epistle to you by the hand of our beloved Brother Salmon Gee, your messenger, who has been ordained by us, in obedience to the commandments of God, to the office of Elder to preside over the Church in Thompson, taking the oversight thereof, to lead you and to teach the things which are according to godliness; in whom we have great confidence, as we presume also you have, we therefore say to you, yea, not us only, but the Lord also, receive him as such, knowing that the Lord has appointed him to this office for your good, holding him up by your prayers, praying for him continually that he may be endowed with wisdom and understanding in the knowledge of the Lord, that through him you may be kept from evil spirits, and all strifes and dissensions, and grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Salmon Gee set apart and ordained a seventy by Sidney Rigdon and Hyrum Smith. Priesthood and Church Government by John A. Widtsoe. GEE, Salmon. Encyclopedia of Mormonism, Vol.4, Appendix 1 Seventy, April 6, 1837; fellowship withdrawn, Mar. 6, 1838; b. Oct. 16, 1792, Lyme, Connecticut; d. Sept. 13, 1845, Ambrosia, Iowa; posthumously reinstated, Sept. 14, 1967; m. Sarah Watson Crane, two children.

Items of Historic Interest, Handbook of the Restoration, p.667

SALMON GEE.ùBorn Oct. 16, 1792, at Lyme, New London County, Conn.; ordained a seventy and set apart as one of the first seven presidents April 6, 1837, at Kirtland, at the age of 43; seventies withdrew their fellowship from Brother Gee, March 6, 1838; died Sept. 13, 1845, at Ambrosia, Lee County, Iowa.

Joseph Young, Organization of the Seventies, p.4

In February, 1835, the First Quorum of Seventies was organized by the Prophet Joseph Smith, in Kirtland, Geauga County, Ohio. The names of the Presidents were as follows:

Hazen Aldrich, Joseph Young, Levi W. Hancock, Leonard Rich, Zebedee Coltrin, Lyman Sherman, and Sylvester Smith.

Six of these were ordained Presidents at the time of the organization of the quorum. Levi W. Hancock being absent, his place was held vacant until his return.

It is here proper to remark, that it is natural in human beings, when assuming new fields of labor for the development of their talents and abilities, that they seek to ascertain the bounds of their prerogative. This was very forcibly illustrated by the different organizations of the priesthood at that time. Some of the High Priests and a number of the Seventies introduced a question, as to which is the greatest among [p.5] them, the Seventies or the High Priests. Their discussions continued to increase, with so much warmth that it amounted to jealousy.

At length it attracted the notice of the Prophet. Both parties asserted their claims of pre-eminence to his father, who took so much interest in the question that he referred it to his son Joseph to decide, and the Prophet called a council for that purpose.

The council was called together in the month of November, 1835. After it wasassembled he asked the newly-organized quorum if any of their number had been ordained to the High Priest's office, previous to their ordination as Seventies. It was not ascertained how many from the Seventies' quorums had previously been ordained High Priests; five out of the seven Presidents however, acknowledged that they were High Priests before they were ordained Seventies. These were Hazen Aldrich, Leonard Rich, Zebedee Coltrin, Lyman Sherman and Sylvester Smith. Accordingly, the Prophet invited them to take their places in the High Priests' quorum again, which was complied with, thus leaving Joseph Young and Levi W. Hancock in the council. He thought that this

was the best way to settle the difficulty and remove all feelings, without deciding the question as to which was the greatest.

A few weeks after this a new second selection was to be made; the Prophet met Elder Joseph Young, and said: "Bro. Joseph, we have taken five of your council away, but will supply their places with others." And he appointed the following brethren, viz., Elders James Foster, Josiah Butterfield, John Gould, John Gaylord, Daniel S. Miles and Salmon Gee.

Shortly after this the Prophet met Joseph Young again, and told him six brethren, instead of five, had been chosen to fill the vacancy in the council of the Seventies, at the same time requesting him to see Bro. John Gould, and

signify to him the desire of the Prophet to have him placed in the High Priests' Quorum. Bro. Gould complied with the wishes of the Prophet, and he was ordained a High Priest. When [p.6] Bro. Levi W. Hancock returned, he was

ordained a First President of the Seventies, and took the position assigned him in the council in the fall of 1835.

This council stood intact until the month of May, 1838. The Prophet had departed from Kirtland and had journeyed as far as the State of Missouri, the place of his destination, the previous year. The brethren in Kirtland received a message from him, giving all the councils of the priesthood, remaining in that place, instructions to have them filled up. At this time the council of the Seventies convened for this purpose. Elders Salmon Gee and John Gaylord were absent from the council, but sent word that they wished to be excused from any further services in the council. Consequently, pursuant to their request, they were excused and were dropped by the council, and Zera Pulsipher and Henry Herriman were chosen in their places, and were ordained First Presidents and members thereof.

History of the Church, Vol.1, Ch.25, p.355

June 23,--"Doctor" Philastus Hurlburt was again called in question, by a general council; and Brother Gee, of Thompson, testified that Brother Hurlburt said that he deceived Joseph Smith's God, or the spirit by which he is

actuated. There was also corroborating testimony brought against him by Brother Hodges. The council cut him off from the Church.

History of the Church, Vol.2, Ch.13, p.205

The following are the names of those who were blessed in consequence of their labor on the house of the Lord in Kirtland, and those who consecrated to its upbuilding: Sidney Rigdon, Maleum C. Davis, Joseph Smith, Jun., Jaman Aldrich, F. G. Williams, John Young, Sen., Joseph Smith, Sen.,Ezra Strong, Oliver Cowdery, Joel McWithy, Newel K. Whitney, Matthew Foy, Reynolds Cahoon, James Randall, Hyrum Smith, John P. Greene, Jared Carter, Aaron E. Lyon, Jacob Bump, Thomas Burdick, Artemus Millet, Truman Wait, Alpheus Cutler, Edmund Bosley, Asa Lyman, William Bosley, Josiah Butterfield, William Perry, Noah Packard, Don Carlos Smith, James Putnam, Shadrach Roundy, Isaac Hill, Joel Johnson, Edmund Durfee, Sen., Oliver Higley, Edmund Durfee, Jun., Evan M. Greene, Gideon Ormsby, Levi Osgood, Albert Miner, Alpheus Harmon, Ira Ames, Joseph C. Kingsbury, Salmon Gee, Ira Bond, Peter Shirts, Z. H. Brewster, Isaac Hubbard, Samuel Thomson, Horace Burgess, John Ormsby, Dexter Stillman, Luman Carter, Amos P. Herrick, John Smith, Mayhew Hillman, Samuel H. Smith, William Carter,

Thomas Fisher, William Burgess, Starry Fisk, Giles Cook, Amos R. Orton, Almon Sherman, Gad Yale, Warren Smith, John Johnson, Moses Bailey, John Tanner, Sebe Ives, Henry G. Sherwood, Andrew H. Aldrich, Sidney Tanner, Ebenezar Jennings, Joseph Tippits, Oliver Granger, Robert Quigley, Orson Johnson, Erastus Babbitt, James Lake, Samuel Canfield, William Redfield, Phineas H. Young, Cyrus Lake, Samuel Rolfe, Harvey Smith, Calvin W. Stoddard, Issac Cleveland, Josiah Fuller, William Barker, Erastus Rudd, Samuel S. Brannan, Isaac G.

Bishop, John Wheeler, Roswell Murray, Henry Baker, Benjamin Wells, William Fisk, Nehemiah Harman, Henry Wilcox, Oliver Wetherby, George Gee, Thomas Hancock, Lorenzo D. Young, Josuah Grant, David Clough, William Draper, James Durfee, Ransom Van Leuven, Joseph Coe, Tunis Rappellee, Thomas Gates, John Reed, Loren Babbitt, Samuel Wilcox, Blake Baldwin, Benjamin Johnson, Joseph B. Bosworth.

History of the Church, Vol.2, Ch.13, p.207

The blessings and ordinations of particular individuals of the foregoing were as follows:--Reynolds Cahoon, Jacob Bump, and Artemus Millet, were blessed with the blessings of heaven and a right in the house of the Lord in Kirtland, agreeable to the labor they had performed thereon, and the means they had contributed.

Alpheus Cutler, Asa Lyman, Josiah Butterfield, Noah Packard, Jonas Putnam, and Isaac Hill received the same blessing. The blessing referred to was according to each man's labor or donation, and in addition, Elder Packard was promised wisdom and ability to proclaim the Gospel. Edmund Durfee, Sen., Edmund Durfee, Jun., and Gideon Ormsby received the same blessing, and Edmund Durfee, Jun., was ordained an Elder. Albert Miner, Ira Ames, Salmon Gee, Peter Shirts, Isaac Hubbard, and Horace Burgess were blessed, and Peter Shirts and Horace Burgess

were ordained Elders. Dexter Stillman, Amos F. Herrick, and Matthew Hillman were blessed. William Burgess, Jaman Aldrich, and John Young, Sen., were blessed. Giles Cook, Jun., and M. C. Davis were blessed and ordained Elders. Wm. Carter, who was blind, was promised a restoration of sight, if faithful. Ezra Strong, Joel McWithy, Matthew Foy, James Randall, and Aaron C. Lyon were blessed. John P. Greene was ordained a missionary to the Lamanites, after others have unlocked the door, with a promise of gathering many to Zion, and of returning with great joy at the end of his mission, to enjoy the blessings of his family. Thomas Burdick, Truman Wait and Edmund Bosley were blessed, and Elder Bosley was told that God had a work for him, viz. : to go and preach the Gospel to the sectarian priests of this age, to call after them and hunt them up, wherever he could hear of them, and preach the Gospel to them whether they will hear or forbear. William Bosley and William Berry were blessed and ordained Elders. Don Carlos Smith was blessed with a promise of wisdom to proclaim the Gospel, and also to write in wisdom. Shadrach Roundy, Joel Johnson, and Oliver Higbee were blessed,

History of the Church, Vol.2, Ch.35, p.510

The President then called upon the congregation to know if the recently appointed presidents of the Seventies should stand in their calling.

Voted that John Gaylord, James Forster, Salmon Gee, Daniel S. Miles, JosephYoung, Josiah Butterfield, and Levi W. Hancock, should retain their offices as presidents of Seventies; John Gould was objected to.

B. H. Roberts, Comprehensive History of the Church, Vol.1, Ch.30, p.376

There is some discrepancy between Joseph Young's account and other writers as to the time when the five high priests, who had been ordained presidents of the seventy, were transferred to the high priests' quorum. Joseph Young places it in November, 1835; the Prophet in April, 1837. James Foster, Daniel S. Miles, Josiah Butterfield, Salmon Gee and John Gaylord, were ordained to take the place of the five retiring brethren. It was reported that Levi W. Hancock, who was absent from Kirtland at the time, had previously been ordained a high priest, and John Gould was put in his place in the first council. When Elder Hancock returned to Kirtland during the summer of 1837, however, it was ascertained that it was a mistake about his having been ordained a high priest, and John Gould was taken into the high priests' quorum, and Levi W. Hancock was retained in the first council. The first council as finally settled upon in that organization, and at that time, stood as follows:

JOSEPH YOUNG, LEVI W. HANCOCK. JAMES FOSTER, JOHN GAYLORD. DANIEL S. MILES, JOSIAH BUTTERFIELD, SALMON GEE,

Andrew Jenson, Church Chronology

Questions arose among some of the brethren in regard to the corresponding grades of the Seventies and High Priests, and it was ascertained that five or six of the seven presidents had previously been ordained High Priests. The Prophet Joseph Smith, in a meeting held in the Kirtland Temple, April 6, 1837, counseled these brethren, namely, Hazen Aldrich, Leonard Rich, Zebedee Coltrin, Lyman Sherman and Sylvester Smith, to join the High Priests' quorum, which five of them did, and the following named Elders were chosen to fill the vacancies thus created in the First Council of the Seventies: John Gould, in place of Hazen Aldrich; James Foster, in place of Leonard Rich; Daniel S. Miles, in place of Zebedee Coltrin; Josiah Butterfield, in place of Lyman Sherman; Salmon Gee, in place of Levi W. Hancock, and John Gaylord, in place of Sylvester Smith.

In the summer of 1837 it was ascertained that Levi W. Hancock, who was in Missouri at the time of the April meeting, was not a High Priest, and he was therefore received back into his former position as one of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies, at an important meeting held at Kirtland, Ohio, Sept. 3, 1837. John Gould, one of the newly appointed presidents, was asked by the Prophet Joseph to join the High Priests, which he did. After these changes the First Council of Seventies stood as follows: Joseph Young, Levi W. Hancock, James Foster, Daniel S. Miles, Josiah Butterfield, Salmon Gee, and John Gaylord.

In a meeting of the Seventies, held at Kirtland, Ohio, March 6, 1838, the council withdrew their fellowship from Salmon Gee for neglect of duty and other causes. Elder Zera Pulsipher was chosen and ordained to fill the

vacancy the same day. The foregoing information about the Seventies is obtained from the original record of Seventies kept at Kirtland, Ohio.

Andrew Jenson, Church Chronology

GEE, Salmon; ordained and set apart as one of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies April 6, 1837, under the hands of Sidney Rigdon and Hyrum Smith.

Orson F. Whitney, Life of Heber C. Kimball, p.183

Five members of the High Council were also objected to by the people, and new ones chosen in their stead. John Gaylord, James Forster, Salmon Gee, Daniel S. Miles, Joseph Young, Josiah Butterfield and Levi Hancock were retained in office as Presidents of the Seventies, while John Gold was rejected.

LDS Biographical Encyclopedia, Andrew Jenson, Vol. 1, p.192

Gee, Salmon, one of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies from 1837-38, was born Oct. 16, 1792 in Lyme New London county, Conn. When he was about seventeen years old he removed to Ohio, and located in [p.193] Ashtabula county. In 1828 he removed to Geauga county, where he joined the Church, being baptized in July, 1832, by Zebedee Coltrin. Shortly afterwards (Feb. 4, 1833) he was ordained an Elder by Sidney Rigdon, and he removed to Kirtland in April, 1834. When the second quorum of Seventy was organized in 1836, he was ordained a member thereof, and at the time of the reorganization of the Seventies, April 6, 1837, he was called to fill the vacancy in the Council caused by the removal of Elder Zebedee Coltrin to the High Priests' quorum. He was ordained under the hands of Sidney Rigdon and Hyrum Smith. At a meeting of the Seventies held at Kirtland, March 6, 1838, the quorum withdrew their fellowship from Bro. Gee for neglect of duty and other causes, but he was never excommunicated from the Church. When Almon W. Babbitt reorganized the Stake in Kirtland, in 1841,

Elder Gee was chosen as a member of the High Council at that place, where he remained until 1844, when he removed to Ambrosia, Lee county, Iowa. There he died, Sept. 13, 1845, as a faithful member of the Church. His remains were interred at Nauvoo. One of the last acts of his life was to call the members of his family around him and exhort them to faithfulness, advising them also to follow the Church wherever it went.

Kirtland Jan. 30th 1836

Backman & Cook eds. Kirtland Elders' Quorum Record (1985), p.5

This evening, the president [Alvah] Beman with the Elders of the quorum met at the house of the Lord. The meeting was opened by singing, and prayer, and president Beman proceeded to anoint twenty four; (Viz) Ja[James]. Foster, Artemus Millett, Salmon Gee, Nat. Milliken, Gad Yale, Oliver Granger, Josiah Butterfield, Elias

Benner, Uzziel Stevens, Tho. Burdick, Elijah Fordam, Robert Rathbone, Hiram Dayton, Giles Cook, J[John].
E. Page, J[Joel]. H. Johnson, Wm. Tenny jr., Daniel Wood, Edmund Marvin, Geo. Morey, Reuben McBride,
M. C. Davis [Marvel or Maleum C. Davis], Almon Shermon, I[Isaac]. H. Bishop; and the president and
counsel gave such instructions as were necessary; and the meeting adjourned by prayer until the 1st of Feb.

Backman & Cook eds. Kirtland Elders' Record (1985), Appendix, p.84

Salmon GEE (1792-1845). Born at Lyme, New London, CT. Baptized 1832. Resident of Madison, OH during most of 1830s. Made frequent trips to Kirtland while living near that town. Taxpayer and land owner in Kirtland 1835-1839. Received blessing for working on temple 1835. Secured anointing, elder's license, and chosen member of second quorum of seventy 1836. Shareholder in Kirtland Safety Society 1837. Set apart as one of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies. Fellowship was withdrawn 6 Mar 1838. Resident of Kirtland 1840. Died at Ambrosia, Lee, IA.

Messenger and Advocate (Jun 1836) p.335 First, names of the Elders: Among them was Salmon Gee

Messenger and Advocate (Mar 1837) Warren Cowdery ed p.476

Art. 16th. Any article in this agreement may be altered at any time, annulled, added unto or expunged, by the vote of two-thirds of the members of said society; except the fourteenth article, that shall remain unaltered during the existence of said company. For the true and faithful fulfilment of the above covenant and agreement, we individually bind ourselves to each other under the penal sum of one hundred thousand dollars. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals the day and date first written above. Sidney Rigdon Leonard Rich N [Newel] K Whitney Artemus Millet Reynolds Cahoon Peter Shirts Joseph Smith jr Wm D Pratt Warren Parrish Jerusha Smith Sylvester Smith Martha Knight Hyrum Smith Josiah Butterfield Edwin P Merriam John Smith Elijah Cheney Hiram Corey Eliphalet Boynton Jared Carter Vinson Knight C [Cornelius] P Lott Solon Foster Elijah Able Daniel Bowen Nathan Haskins Loren Babbit Geo W Robinson Joel McWithy Noah Packard Zemira Draper Daniel Allen jr Wm Drapersen Edson Barney Wm Draper jr Erastus Babbit Asa Lyman Reuben McBride Laban Morill Russell Potter Bechias Dustin Harvey Stanley Jesse Turpin Uzziel Stevens Alexander Badlam John Johnson Wm Smith Ezekiel Rider Luke Johnson Elisha C Coltrin A Pettingall Luman Carter Isaac H Bishop Wm Woodstock Harrison Burgess Jonathan Hampton Joseph Smith sen

Sterny Tripp Lucy Smith Amasa Bonney Jonas Putnam P [Parley] P Pratt Edmund Bosley John Gaylord Hyrum Stratton Daniel S Jackson Samuel Parker Edwin D Webb David Whitmer Edward M Webb Roger Orton Wm F Cahoon Erastus Snow Horace Burgess Lyman Sherman Wm Miller Isaac Rogers Orson Pratt Salmon Gee Brigham Young Andrew Brim J B Smith Jonathan H Holmes S [Sylvester] B Stoddard Wm C Rolfe Ebenezer Barr Warren Smith Lyman E Johnson Simeon Andrews Heber C Kimball Nath. Milliken Lorenzo Young John F Boynton Zebedee Coltrin Reuben Hedlock Gardner Snow J [Joseph] B Noble Amasa Lyman Smith

Humphrey Nathan Tanner Francis G Bishop Jeremiah Willey Ephraim Badger Nathan Chency Ira Bond L [Lawerence] H Franks George W Gee Lewis Eager George A Smith Silas Smith Mahew Millman Jesse Baker Chauncey G Webb Gideon H Carter Thos Butterfield David Clough Lebbeus T Coons Astin Butler Samuel

Newcomb Benj Andrews Sabra Granger Wm Foster 1st Benj Winchester L [Lysander] M Davis Samuel Hale W [William] Huntington jr Israel Barlow Zima Huntington Nathaniel Carr Lorenzo Wells Reuben Field James M Carrel Dorcas Brooks Truman O Angell Phebe Rigdon Graham Coltrin

Times and Seasons, Vol.5, p.724

The following letter was written by John Murdock a high priest, (who had previously been with the church in Thompson,) to Salmon Gee, elder of the church in Thompson. The letter followed.

Kirtland, February 11, 1833.

Beloved brethren and sisters, in the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I beseech you in the bowels of mercy to remember the exhortation which I gave you while I was yet present with you, to beware of delusive spirits. I rejoice that our Heavenly Father hath blessed you greatly, as he has also me, in enabling me to speak the praises of God and the mysteries of the kingdom in other tongues according to the promise; and this without throwing me down, or wallowing me on the ground, or any thing unbecoming or immoral; also, without any external operation of the system; but it is the internal operation of the system; but it is the internal operation and power of the spirit of God, so that I know that those odd actions and strange noises are not caused by the spirit of the Lord as is represented by Brother King: Therefore, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ by the spirit of the living God, according to, the authority of the holy priesthood committed to me, I command Brother Thomas King, (as though

I were present,) to cease from your diabolical acts of enthusiasm, and also from acting as an elder in this church of Christ, until you come and give full testimony to the high priests in Kirtland, that you are worthy of that holy

calling; because those are the things of God, and are to be used in the fear of God: and I now not only command you, but exhort you in behalf of your souls salvation, to submit, and let Brother Gee be upheld by the prayer of

faith of every brother and sister, and if there be this union of spirit, and prayer of faith every false spirit shall be bound, and cast out from among you.

Times and Seasons, Vol.6, p.785

June 23rd. Brother Doctor P. Hurlbut was called in question, by a general council; and Brother Gee, of Thompson, testified that Brother Hurlbut said that he deceived Joseph Smith's God, or the spirit by which he was actuated,

&c. There was also corroborating testimony brought against him, by Brother Hodges, and the council cut him off from the church.

Susan Easton Black "Early Church Membership" Gee, Salmon (Male) Birth: Gee, Salmon (Male) Date: October 16, 1792 Place: Lyme, New London, CT, USA Parents: Gee, Salmon (Male) Father: Gee, Zopher Mother: Beckwith, Esther Death: Gee, Salmon (Male) Date: September 13, 1845 Place: Ambrosia, Lee, Iowa, USA Alternate Place: Nauvoo, Hancock, IL, USA Marriage Information: Gee, Salmon (Male) Spouse: Crane, Sarah Watson Date: Church Ordinance Data: Gee, Salmon (Male) Baptism Date: July 1832 Officiator: Zebedee Coltrin Ordained Elder Date: February 4, 1833 Officiator: Signey Rigdon

Ordained Elder Date: February 4, 1834 Ordained Seventy Date: April 6, 1836 Officiator: Sidney Rigdon, Hyrum Smith Patriarchal Blessing Date: 1836 Place: Kirtland, Geauga, OH, USA Officiator: Joseph Smith Sr. Temple Ordinance Data: Gee, Salmon (Male) Baptism Date: July 3, 1970 Endowment Date: September 5, 1888 Sealed to ParentsDate: December 7, 1976 Temple: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT, USA

Sealed to Spouse Number 1 Date: September 30, 1976 Places of Residence: Gee, Salmon (Male) Kirtland, Geauga, OH, USA; 1834 Ambrosia, Lee, IA, USA; 1844

Comments: Gee, Salmon (Male)Salmon was one of the first Seven Presidents of Seventies from 1837 to 1838. When he was about seventeen years old he removed to Ohio, and located in Ashtabula county. In 1828 he removed to Geauga county, where he joined the Church. When the second quorum of Seventy was organized in 1836, he was ordained a member thereof, and at the time of the reorganization of the Seventies, April 6, 1837, he was called to fill the vacancy in the Council caused by the removal of Elder Zebedee Coltrin. At a meeting of the Seventies held at Kirtland, March 6, 1838, the quorum withdrewtheir fellowship from Brother Gee for neglect of duty and other causes, but he was never excommunicated from the Church. When Almon W. Babbitt reorganized the Stake in Kirtland, in 184I, Elder Gee was chosen as a member of the High Council at that place, where he remained until 1844. There he died as a faithful member of the Church. His remains were interred at Nauvoo. One of the last acts of his life was to call the members of his family around him and exhort them to faithfulness, advising them also to follow the Church wherever it went.

Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah, p.1281

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In, the summer of 1837 it was ascertained that Levi W. Hancock, who was in Missouri at the time of the April meeting, was not a High Priest, and he was therefore received back into his former position as one of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies, at an important meeting held at Kirtland, Ohio, Sept. 3, 1837. John Gould, one of the newly appointed presidents, was asked by the Prophet Joseph to join the High Priests, which he did. After these changes the First Council of Seventies stood as follows: Joseph Young, Levi W. Hancock, James Foster, Daniel S. Miles, Josiah Butterfield, Salmon Gee, and John Gaylord.

Jan. 13, 1838, John Gaylord, together with many others, was excommunicated from the Church by the High Council at Kirtland, Ohio, for rising up in rebellion against the Church authorities. Elder Henry Herriman was called and ordained Feb. 6, 1838, to fill the vacancy in the First Council of Seventies.

In a meeting of the Seventies, held at Kirtland, Ohio, March 6, 1838, the council withdrew their fellowship from Salmon Gee for neglect of duty and other causes. Elder Zeta Pulsipher was chosen and ordained to fill the vacancy

the same day. The foregoing information about the Seventies is obtained from the original record of Seventies kept at Kirtland, Ohio.

Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah, p.1284

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Gee, Salmon

LDS Biographical Encyclopedia, Andrew Jenson, Vol. 1, p.192

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ordained a member thereof, and at the time of the reorganization of the Seventies, April 6, 1837, he was called to fill the vacancy in the Council caused by the removal of Elder Zebedee Coltrin to the High Priests' quorum. He was ordained under the hands of Sidney Rigdon and Hyrum Smith. At a meeting of the Seventies held at Kirtland, March 6, 1838, the quorum withdrew their fellowship from Bro. Gee for neglect of duty and other causes, but he was never excommunicated from the Church. When Almon W. Babbitt reorganized the Stake in Kirtland, in 1841, Elder Gee was chosen as a member of the High Council at that place, where he remained until 1844, when he removed to Ambrosia, Lee county, Iowa. There he died, Sept. 13, 1845, as a faithful member of the Church. His remains were interred at Nauvoo. One of the last acts of his life was to call the members of his family around him and exhort them to faithfulness, advising them also to follow the Church wherever it went.

Wiggins, Marvin E. Mormons and Their Neighbors (Supplement)
Gee, Salmon 16 Oct 1792 - 13 Aep 1845
A Profile of Latter-day Saints of Kirtland, Ohio, and Members of Zion's Camp, 1830-1839 by Milton V. Backman, Jr. Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University, 1982. @ p.28
Church Almanac by Deseret News. 1974-1985. 1974 p.147 1975 p.B47

1976 p.B44	
1977 p.107	
1978 p.117	
1979 p.111	
1980 p.113	
1981 p.118	
1982 p.114	
1983 p.104	
1985 p.55	

Wiggins, Marvin E. Mormons and Their Neighbors
Gee, Salmon 16 Oct 1792 - 13 Sep 1845
Latter-Day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia: A Compilation of Biographical
Sketches of Prominent Men and Women In The Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter-day Saints by Andrew Jenson. [Salt Lake City: Andrew Jenson History
Company, 1901-1935.] v.1, p.192
Mighty Men of Zion: General Authorities of the Last Dispensation by Lawrence
R. Flake. [Salt Lake City: Karl D. Butler, 1974.] p.400

History of the Church, Vol.1, Ch.23, p.324

It has seemed good unto the Holy Spirit and unto us, to send this our epistle to you by the hand of our beloved Brother Salmon Gee, your messenger, who has been ordained by us, in obedience to the commandments of God, to the office of Elder to preside over the Church in Thompson, taking the oversight thereof, to lead you and to teach the things which are according to godliness; in whom we have great confidence, as we presume also you have, we therefore say to you yea, not us only, but the Lord also, receive him as such, knowing that the Lord has appointed him to this office for your good, holding him up by your prayers, praying for him continually that he may be endowed with wisdom and understanding in the knowledge of the Lord, that through him you may be kept from evil spirits, and all strifes and dissensions, and grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Brethren beloved, continue in brotherly love, walk in meekness, watching unto prayer that you be not overcome. Follow after peace, as said our beloved brother Paul, that you may be the children of our Heavenly Father, and not give occasion for stumbling, to Saint or sinner. Finally, brethren, pray for us, that we may be enabled to do the work whereunto we are called, that you may enjoy the mysteries of God, even a fullness; and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. JOSEPH SMITH, JUN., SIDNEY RIGDON, FREDERICK G. WILLIAMS.

Orson F. Whitney, History of Utah, Vol. 1, p.138

Soon after the Prophet's return from Canada, a return rendered barely possible by mobs lying in wait to attack him, a conference was held at Kirtland and steps taken to purge the disaffected element from the various councils of the

Priesthood. It was Sunday, September 3rd, 1837. On that day the Church voted with uplifted hands to sustain in office the following named Elders: Joseph Smith, junior, as President of the Church; Sidney Rigdon as his first

counselor; Oliver Cowdery, Joseph Smith, senior, Hyrum Smith and John Smith, as assistant counselors; Thomas B. Marsh, David W. Patten, Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Orson Hyde, Parley P. Pratt, Orson Pratt, William Smith and William E. McLellin as members of the council of the Apostles; John Gaylord, James Foster, Salmon Gee, Daniel S. Miles, Joseph Young, Josiah Butter field and Levi Hancock, as Presidents of Seventies, and Newel K. Whitney as Bishop of Kirtland, with Reynolds Cahoon and Jared Garter as his counselors.

Frederick G. Willlams, one of the First Presidency; Luke S. and Lyman E. Johnson and John F. Boynton, three of the Apostles, and John Gould, one of the Presidents of Seventies, were rejected. Five members of the High Council were also objected to by the people, and new ones appointed in their stead.

Ist. 367

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Salmon Gee in the 1840 Census

Salmon is listed as the head of the household in the 1840 Census of Kirtland, Lake, Ohio.

The census lists	
Males	
5 to 10	1
15 to 20	1
40 to 50	1
Females	
Under 5	1
10 to 15	1
15 to 20	1
40 to 50	1

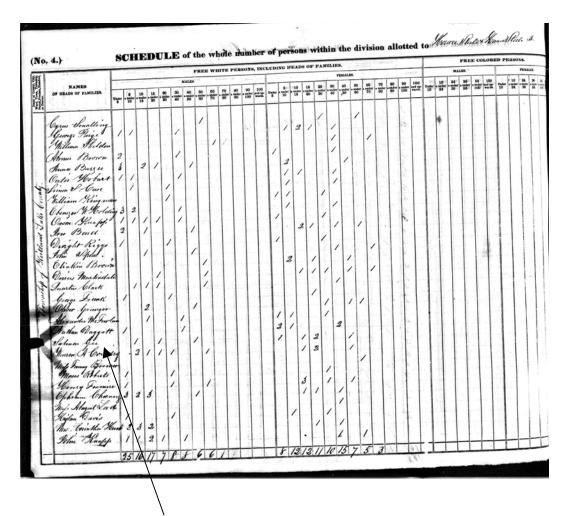
To account for the children I have listed them all below with their ages in 1840.

George Washington	25 and married
Giles	diseased
Lysander	22 and married
Sarah Caroline	20
Amanda Melvina	17
Erastus Smith	16
Susan Eliza	12
Salmon	10
Electa	diseased
Martha Brewer	2

Since the oldest three were out of the home I would interpret the family to appear as follows:

5-10	1	Salmon the son
15-20	1	Erastus Smith
40-50	1	Salmon the father
Females		
Under 5	1	Martha Brewer
10 to 15	1	Susan Eliza
15 to 20	1	Amanda Melvina
40 to 50	1	Sarah Watson Crane Gee the mother

This leaves Sarah Caroline not living at home. Since she was 20 and not married she was probably living in another household as household help. She married Timothy Botsford 4 years later.



Picture of the actual Census Record listing Salmon Gee in the Kirtland 1840 Census

5th retro generation (maternal side, of GGJ)

First in the Gee line to be baptized were Salmon Gee and his wife Sarah Watson Crane.

Salmon Gee was born in Lyme, New London, Connecticut 16 Oct. 1792. Married 15 nov 1814 in New Lyme, Ohio. Baptized in jul 1832. Died 13 sep 1845 (chills and fever) in Ambrosia, Iowa. Buried in New Lyme, OH.

Comments: Salmon was the son of Zopher Gee and his first wife Ester Beckwith. The Beckwiths were an elite New England family, although Esther's father made his wealth by slave trade and running rum, both legal, but immoral endeavors even at the time. Anecdotal rumors about his death are that he may have been pushed off a cliff. Ester died in childbirth at age 24. In 1810 Salmon (17 yo) and his brother John (21 yo) moved to the "Western Reserve" (perhaps to Stockholm, St. Lawrence County NY where his son, George Washington Gee, met and courted Mary Jane Smith). In 1828 he moved to Geauga County, Ohio. (Seven months after his baptism he was ordained an Elder and was sent to preside over the branch of the church at Thompson, Ohio.

A glimpse into the evolution of the newly organized church, which attracted many visionaries seeking supernatural spiritual experiences, is recorded in the following bit of history relating to Salmon Gee's calling quoted in BH Roberts, <u>History of the Church,</u> Period 1, Volume I, p 325-6. (Salmon had been a member just 7 months)

[Received September 15, 2006 from Marie Sampson who got them from George Gee Jackson]

ADELIA MAY GEE: (4th forward generation Jackson Maternal Side):

The following paragraph from *Joseph Smith, Rough Stone Rolling*, Richard L. Bushman, 2005 P.114, is pertinent to the genealogy of first church members in the Gee-Fuller Lines.

"To spread the word to his own family, Joseph Smith Sr. and young Don Carlos Smith, (his grandson, the youngest son of Joseph Jr. and Emma Hale) still a boy of fourteen, set out in August 1830 for Stockholm, St. Lawrence County, New York, a Smith stronghold. (The families of Asael Smith and Mary Duty and their children moved to Stockholm sometime prior to 1828, as had the Gee's and The Fullers who subsequently married two daughters of Asael Smith Jr. and Elizabeth Schellinger)[This has been inserted by George Gee Jackson and is not part of Richard Bushman's book. L.G.]. The Manchester Smiths had written to the family in the fall of 1828 about Joseph Jr.'s revelations. Jesse Smith

the eldest son, scoffed at such pretensions, but the other St. Lawrence Smiths were interested. Father Asael, eighty-six and about to die, read the Book of Mormon nearly through without the aid of glasses. He said, "he always knew that God was going to raise up some branch of his family to be a great benefit to mankind". Jesse's efforts to seal Joseph Sr. off from the rest of the family were to no avail. Jesse became so obnoxious that Silas, another brother, threatened to throw him out of the house if he continued to insult Joseph Sr. Still another brother, John, kept the visitors overnight at his house by a trick and heard the story. Βv the time Joseph left Stockholm, the family had copies of the Book of Mormon and knew about the Church. John was baptized in 1832, and Silas and Asael Jr. soon followed. Their mother, Mary Duty Smith, traveled to Kirtland to see Joseph Jr. Jesse was the only one of the living brothers not to join..."

Comment: Our record of first members of the church in the Gee line composed from historical records and certificates identifies Salmon Gee and his wife Sally (Sarah) as the first members, baptized July 1832. It is quite possible that Asael Smith Jr. was baptized at or near the same time. George Washington Gee, son of Salmon Gee and Sally Crane, married Mary Jane Smith, the daughter of Asael Smith Jr. and Elizabeth Schellinger. Thus we have a dual stem of first members, Salmon and Asael Jr., of 5th generation (GGJ) of antecedent ancestors in the Gee line.

[Received September 15, 2006 from Marie Sampson who got them from George Gee Jackson]

My comment(Laurence Gee): There is no evidence that the Gees were ever in Stockholm. Zopher purchased a plot of land in Lebanon (later New Lyme) in 1810 while living in Lyme, New London, Connecticut and from the big red book and my history we read the following: "On September 20, 1811 or 1812 (history is confusing as to the year), a group of ninety persons arrived and settled in an area first known as Lebanon but later renamed New Lyme, Ashtabula County, Ohio. They had traveled more than six hundred miles by wagon, some drawn by horses and others by oxen."¹ Zopher moved his family, which then consisted of eight children and his wife Lura, to Ashtabula County, Ohio. Their last child was born there. Zopher died there in 1829 when Salmon was 38 years old and had 7 children.

After the birth of Lysander the family moved to Rome, Ashtabula, County, Ohio. In 1830 they were living in Madison, Ashtabulah County. Salmon and his wife joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in the early years. Salmon was baptized in 1832, when Lysander was 14 years of age by Zebedee Coltrin. Salmon was ordained an Elder in the church February 4, 1833 by Sidney Rigdon. It is not clear from the record if his wife, Sarah Watson Crane, was baptized at the same time, but they were members of the church while living in Ohio. Lysander's oldest brother, George Washington, was baptized the 17th of February 1833. Lysander's older brother Giles died in 1821 at the age of four. In the diary of Zebedee Coltrin he states that he confirmed (blessed) Lysander's brother Salmon aged 2, and his sister Eliza who was 4 at the time. No mention was made of Lysander.

"The following letter was written by John Murdock, a High Priest, (who had previously been with the Church in Thompson), to Salmon Gee, Elder of the Church in Thompson:

Kirtland, February 11, 1833 Beloved brethren and sisters in the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I beseech you in the bowels of mercy to remember the exhortations which I gave you while I was yet present with you, to beware of delusive I rejoice that our Heavenly Father hath spirits. blessed you greatly, as He also has me in enabling me to speak the praises of God and the mysteries of the kingdom in other tongues according to promise: and this without throwing me down or wallowing me on the ground, or any thing unbecoming or immoral; also without any external operation of the system, but the internal operation and power of the Spirit of God so that I know that those odd actions and strange noises are not caused by the Spirit of the Lord as is

¹ Descendents of Solomon Gee of Lyme, Connecticut Pages 220-230

represented by Brother King. Therefore in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ by the Spirit of the living God according to the authority of the Holy Priesthood committed to me, I command Brother Thomas King (as though I were present) to cease from your diabolical acts of enthusiasm and also from acting as an Elder in the Church of Christ until you come and give full testimony to the High Priests in Kirtland, that you are worthy of that holy calling; because those are the things of God, and are to be used in the fear of God: and I now not only command you but exhort you in behalf of your soul's salvation to submit and let Brother Gee be upheld by the prayer of faith of every brother and sister and if there be this union of spirit and prayer of faith, every false spirit shall be bound and cast out from among you

My beloved children in the bonds of the Gospel, and the bowels of mercy, which is the everlasting love of God, I do beseech you to live faithful and in obedience to the commandments of God: and in the name of the Lord Jesus, I say the blessings of God shall attend you.

John Murdock

[Received September 15, 2006 from Marie Sampson who got them from George Gee Jackson]

While doing some research in the Church Historians office I was led to a group of receipts among the papers of Anson Call.

"Kirtland Dec 6th 1836 For value received I promise to pay Anson Call ... the sum of twenty nine dollars and forty four cents on the fifteenth day of February next with use. (Signed) Salmon Gee

Time line for Salmon Gee

What do we know about Salmon?

The written history is sparse concerning him. As far as we know he left no written record

16 October, 1792 Born in Lyme, New London, Connecticut

24 August, 1794, Salmon's mother Ester Beckwith died

10 September, 1795, Salmon's father Zopher married Lura Jones

In 1810 Salmon and John Gee went as an advanced party to the Western Reserve to look for land and built a small cabin for shelter on Zopher Gee's land where they stayed while clearing land in two locations which they planted in corn as an initial food supply for the families to come later. C.E. Benjamin page 80

20 September, 1811 Moved to Ohio with his father Zopher, age 19 C.E. Benjamin page 80

15 November 1814 Married Sarah Watson Crane in New Lyme, Ashtabulah, Ohio age 22

13 August, 1815, George Washington Gee born in New Lyme, Ashtabulah, Ohio age 23

18 January, 1817, Giles Gee Born in Rome, Ashtabulah, Ohio
1 September, 1818, Lysander Gee Born in Austinburg, Ashtabulah, Ohio
30 August, 1820, Sarah Caroline Gee Born in Rome, Ashtabulah, Ohio
20 January, 1823, Amanda Melvina Gee Born in Rome, Ashtabulah, Ohio
29 July, 1824, Erastus Smith Gee Born in Rome, Ashtabulah, Ohio
31 January, 1828, Susan Eliza Gee Born in Rome, Ashtabulah, Ohio

14 August, 1829, Salmon's father Zopher dies in New Lyme, Ashtabulah, Ohio

13 November, 1829, Salmon Gee Born in Madison, Ashtabulah, Ohio

In the diary of Zebedee Coltrin he states that he confirmed (blessed) Salmon aged 2, and his sister Eliza who was 4 at the time.

July 1832 Baptized by Zebedee Coltrin, age 39

4 February, 1833 Ordained to the office of Elder, Officiator: Sidney Rigdon, age 40

13 July, 1833, Electa Gee Born in Madison, Ashtabulah, Ohio, age 40

Kirtland, February 11, 1833 Mentioned in a letter from the First Presidency to the Saints in Thompson as presiding Elder and also in letter by John Murdock Times and Seasons, Vol.5, p.724 History of the Church, Vol.1, Ch.23, p.324

23 June 1833 Instrumental in the excommunication of Philatus Hurlburt History of the Church Vol. 1 Page 355 Times and Seasons, Vol.6, p.785

1836 Kirtland OhioReceived Patriarchal Blessing by Joseph Smith Sr. W.A. Cowdry recorderVolume 2, page 124Susan Easton Black "Early Church Membership"

7 March 1835 Blessed by Sidney Rigdon for labor on the Kirtland Temple History of the Church Vol 2. Page 205

6 April, 1837 Ordained as a Seventy and set apart as one of the Seven Presidents by Sidney Rigdon and Hyrum Smith

3 September, 1837 Mentioned in the minutes of the Conference History of the Church Vol. 2 p 510

6 March, 1838 Released from the Seven Presidents of Seventy

9 April, 1838, Martha Brewer Gee Born in Madison, Ashtabulah, Ohio

1841 Set apart to serve on the High Council in Kirtland, Ohio

1844 Moved to Ambrosia, Lee, Iowa LDS Biographical Encyclopedia, Andrew Jenson, Vol. 1, p.192 3 Sep 1845 Died in Ambrosia, Lee, Iowa buried in Nauvoo, Hancock, Illinois The following quotes are references to Salmon Gee in the recent volume of the Joseph Smith papers.

Wednesday 9th at home, the wind is strong and chilly, from the South, and their is a prospect of a storm Elder [Noah] Packard came in this morning and made me a present, of 12, dollars which he held in a note against me, may God bless him for his liberality, also James Aldrich, sent me my note by the hand of Jesse Hitchcock, on which [p. 58] there was 12, dollars, due, and may God bless him, for his kindness to me¹

also the brethren whose names are written below opened the hearts in great liberality and payed (me) at the committee Store the sums set oposite their respective names

John Corrill	5.00
Levijackman	3.25
Elijah Fordham	5.25
James Em[m]ett.	5.00
Newel Knight.	2.00
Truman Angell	.3.00
W ^M - Felshaw	.3.00
Emer Harris	.1.00
Truman Jackson	1.00
Samuel Rolph [Rolfe]	.1.25
Elias Higbee	.1.00
Albert Brown	3.00
W ^m F. Cahoon	1.00
Harlow Crosier	.50
Salmon Gee.	.75
Harvey Stanley	1.00
Zemira Draper	1.00
George Morey	1.00
John Rudd [Jr.]	.50
Alexander Badlam [Sr.]	.1.00
\$4	40.50

with the adition of the 2, notes above 24.00

My heart swells with gratitude inexpressible when I realize the great con-descention of my heavenly Fathers, in opening the hearts of these, my beloved brethren [p. 59] to administer so liberally, to my wants and I ask God in the name of Jesus Christ, to multiply, blessings, without number upon their heads, and bless me with much wisdom and understanding, and dispose of me, to the best advantage, for my brethren, and the advancement, of thy cause and Kingdom, and whether my days are many or few whether in life or in death I say in my heart, O Lord let me enjoy the society of such brethren

The Joseph Smith Papers Journals Volume 1 Page 117-118

JOURNAL, MARCH-SEPTEMBER 1838 243

Conferance assembled at 2 o clock P M. Op[e]ned by reading singing & prayer, The Pres.- then arose & said he would call upon the church to know if they were sattisfied with their High Council and should proceed to name them individualy John Johnson Joseph Coe Joseph Kingsbury & Martin^} Harris wire [were] objected to, also John P Green[e] but this case put over

¹ In the largely barter economy, debts were often recorded on handwritten scraps of paper. These notes became a sort of scrip and circulated until retired by cash, labor, or barter. As in this case, the debt could be settled by the creditor's presenting his copy of the note as a gift to the debtor. (See McCabc, "Early Ledgers and Account Books," 5-12.)

untill he should be present, Noah Packard Jared Carter Samuel H Smith, These were voted to retain their office Oliver Granger Henry G. Sherwood W^m Marks Mahue [Mayhew] Hillman Harlow Readfield [Redfield] Asa[h]el Smith Phinehas [Phineas] Richards & David Dort were chosen to fill the place of those objected to. The Pres. then called upon the congregation to know if the recent appointed presidents of the seventies should stand in their calling Voted that John Gaylord James Foster Salmon Gee Daniel S Miles Joseph Youngs [Young] Josiah Butterfield [p. 2,1] & Levi Handcock [Hancock] should retain his (their) office as Pres^y of the Seventies John Gould was objected. The Pres then arose and made some remarks concerning the formers Pres- of the Seventies, the callings and authorities of their Priesthood &c. &c. Voted that the old Presidents of the seventies should be dissattisfied & would not submit to the Present order, and receive these last Presidents that they Should have power to demand their Lisence & they should no longer be concidered members of the church. *The Joseph Smith Papers Journals Volume 1 Page 243*

Gee, Salmon (16 Oct. 1792-13 Sept. 1845); born at Lyme, New London Co., Connecticut. Son of Zopher Gee and Esther Beckwith. Married Sarah Watson Crane, 1814. Baptized, July 1832, Geauga Co., Ohio. Appointed a president of the Seventy, 6 Apr. 1837. Member of Kirtland high council under Almon W. Babbitt, 1841-1844. Died at Ambrosia, Lee Co., Iowa Territory. Buried at Nauvoo. *The Joseph Smith Papers Journals Volume 1 Page 409*