

Dedication of Graves and Monument
for
John, Cinderilla, and Thomas J. Leavitt
Horace and Barney Alfred Brown
by
Gary L. Leavitt
Cambria #1 Cemetery, Cambria, Michigan
Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Our gracious and loving Heavenly Father,

We unite our hearts this day and come together with love and appreciation and adoration for those whom we honor this day at this special site this sacred place. We thank thee for the lives and examples of our ancestors and those whom we honor on this memorial monument especially John Leavitt and his family, his sons and grandsons. We thank thee for the things that we know about them, their courage and their faith, their commitment to be pioneers and to move on whenever the call came. We thank thee for the great gospel plan which encompasses all of the opportunities for all of us to return to thee. We thank thee that our grandfathers chose to enter into the kingdom by the strait and narrow gate. We have been blessed by the things which they did even though they did not know of us many years and years ago. We have benefited by the things that they have done and we are grateful for that as it has made a big difference, a colossal difference in the way we have been able to live our lives. We thank thee, Heavenly Father, that thou has laid a plan and made it possible for us to come through this lineage that we have been able to know of our birthright and our opportunities and we would pray that thou would help all of us to have a greater vision of the future and a greater understanding of what we will mean to our descendents and what we can prepare and put in place for them to enjoy greater opportunities.

And now, as one blessed with the Priesthood, an elder of Israel, and by the authority of the holy Melchizedek priesthood, I consecrate and dedicate and set apart this special plot of land as a memorial place for our ancestors whom we love. And I bless this spot that it might be a place of remembrance that when we come here our minds will be enlightened and our testimonies will be brightened and a greater understanding of Thy love and of our Saviors love for us through the Atonement can be made manifest in our hearts and in our minds as we contemplate the many things we've been able to experience this day and through this week. We're grateful for this monument that has been erected. Let it be a hallowed monument that will be protected from the elements that will remain here for many, many years for those to come and return to this place.

We thank thee for the trees, the grass and the other beautiful things that surround this hallowed place and for this beautiful day that we have to enjoy. Help us to remember it. Help us to record this in our minds that it might rest upon and be a moving spirit from this point forward to move us and to motivate us into those things that we need to do to prepare for the work that is needed to be done to bring all of our ancestors in, to wrap our arms around them and bring them into the arms of love.

Through thee our Heavenly Father we pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.