

PREFACE

of having to give credit to a lot of sources. Besides, it's a lot of fun searching through those musty old books in quaint little county seats.

PLAN OF THE WORK

This work is centered on Isaac W. Underwood, my great-grandfather. Part I is devoted to his ancestors. The name of the direct ancestor is underlined. Except where the information collected on an individual is large, only the direct line individual is given a number. For all others, a note may be given to indicate where more information may be found concerning them. The note will usually refer to a UFA number, where UFA stands for *The Underwood Families of America*, compiled by Lucien Marcus Underwood, edited by Howard Banker, reprinted by Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, Md., 1976. In a few instances I have found errors and omission of relevant facts in UFA. I will cover these instances with a footnote at the appropriate place in the text.

Part II of this work is devoted entirely to Isaac W. Underwood, his life and times. Most of the information for this section comes from the little ledger book left to us by Isaac.

This little book is a real family treasure and I hope it will be carefully protected. Isaac bares his soul in his writing, and after having read the book, one comes away with the feeling that he really knows this man. I have included most of what he wrote in Part II. I have omitted quite a bit of the poetry because of the sheer volume of it. I have also taken the liberty of omitting the article he wrote on Predestination, which was published in the Zion Landmark. It is very long and has no genealogical value. I hope that he would not have been offended by my omissions. Isaac admitted that his spelling wasn't the best, and in a way, I'm grateful that it wasn't, because he spelled words the way he pronounced them, inadvertently giving us an insight as to how he must have talked. For example, he wrote of his wife's mother as being "peart to get around". His word, "peart" would be pronounced "pert" by us today, but I remember my father pronouncing the word more like "pyeer-t", or as Isaac said, "peart". In presenting Isaac's journal here, provincialisms such as "peart" will be written as Isaac wrote them; however misspellings and punctuation errors will be corrected. Isaac says at one place in his journal, "If any