Salt Lake City, Utah, Oct. 28, 1886

President-John Taylor,

Dear Brother,

Being very desirous of obtaining advice which I deem necessary, before going to the temple, I sought Bro. F. D. Richards who very kindly referred me to you.

In the days of Nauvoo when there were some things that transpired, that in my unformed condition, I do not comprehend; my Mother had not had her endowments, or at least had not been sealed over the alter. She asked my father to grant her the privilege to be sealed over the alter in the temple before it should be closed.
My father, Parley P. Pratt, and my mother, Mary Ann Pratt, went to the temple. Father told her it was her privilege to make a choice, and that she could be sealed to any one she chose. She said that she would be her Angel of the Lord, and President Brigham Young said, "If Joseph had lived, he would have had Mary Ann sealed to him." Then he turned to father and said, "Take Sister Mary Ann and her children, take good care of them, and take them to Joseph and it will do more for your exaltation than anything you can do in the matter." She was sealed to Joseph, my father, the Lord's prophet.

I was born out of the covenant; that is, I was born before this law was enacted. Consequently, can only be an heir to the Kingdom by adoption.
L. D. S. Historian's Office,

Salt Lake City, Utah, 1883

Now the question I am so desirous of to have answered is, who am I to choose to be sealed to as my parent? Will it involve a choice between my father and mother which would seem a most excruciating thing to me? However I feel assured that you will kindly advise me and place any feel on assured foundation. I will start for Logan on Sunday 31st inst. and in consequence of the time being no short if you will be so kind as to answer as early as convenient I will feel very grateful and may God bless and preserve you. In the prayer

Mormon L. Pratt
My father, Parley P. Pratt, and my mother, Mary Ann Pratt, went to the temple. Father told her it was her privilege to make a choice, and that she could be sealed to any one she chose. She said that she would like her choice kept. She wanted to put it in the mind and will of the Lord. President Brigham Young said, "If Joseph had lived, the council would have had Mary Ann sealed to him." Then he turned to father and said, "Take his wife Mary Ann and her children, take good care of them and take them to Joseph and it will do more for your exaltation than any thing you can do in the matter." She was sealed to Joseph. My father stood by.

I was born out of the counsel, that is, I was born before this was done. As a consequence, I can only be an heir to the Kingdom by adoption.
Elder

Moroni L. Pratt.
Salt Lake City.

Dear Brother:

Your favor of the 28th inst., giving me a relation of what occurred between your mother and your father, and President Young, concerning the sealing of your mother for eternity, has reached me, and been considered.

It seems from your statement that President Young fully understood the circumstances which surrounded your parents, and gave counsel to your father in the light of that knowledge. The language you quote, as having been used by President Young, covers the enquiry which you make, and indicates the sincerity of my pointing out to you or giving you counsel concerning sealing or adoption. You say that President Young
said to your father, "If Joseph had lived, he would have had Mary Ann sealed to him, and then said further: Take sister Mary Ann and her children; take good care of them and take them to Joseph, and it will do more for your exaltation than anything you can do at this matter."

Accordingly your mother was sealed to the Prophet Joseph, your father acting as proxy. President Young was most anxious to have this carried out as far as he was concerned. You have now arrived as an age to carry out the remainder.

Write kind regards and praying the Lord to bless you.

From your Brother,

John Taylor