

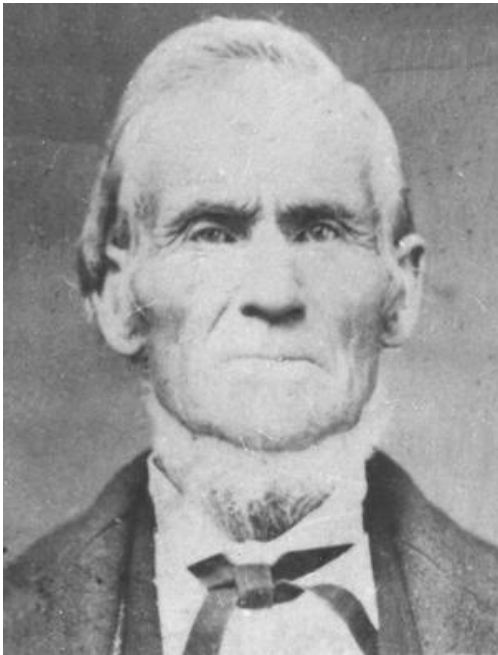
Edwin Whiting

The Whiting, Cox and Hulet families were sent to settle near Lima, Illinois, about 25 miles south of Nauvoo. The new little settlement became known as Yelrome. By 1840 there was a Lima Stake and the Yelrome branch had grown from 16 to 424 members. Edwin became a counselor to the Branch President, Isaac Morley. He also was appointed colonel in the Nauvoo Legion.⁵

On April 22, 1844 Apostles Brigham Young and Wilford Woodruff spoke at conference in the Lima Stake and asked for volunteers to serve missions. Edwin Whiting and Walter Cox were two of the volunteers. Edwin went to Pennsylvania, and Walter was called to New England.

Of future significance to Edwin, Walter stopped to visit the part of the Cox family that still lived in Ohio. One of his sisters, Mary Elizabeth, was converted. She eventually moved to Lima and was baptized in March of 1845 in the Mississippi river, by Isaac Morley.

Edwin served another mission, in Ohio, from the fall of 1854 to the summer of 1856. During this time, his family battled grasshopper invasions. The grasshoppers ate most of the crops and the family survived on sego lilies, pigweed, and other wild greens which the Indians had taught them to eat. [Pigweed is known to contain protein and carbohydrates.] This was a miracle as pigweed had not grown in that location before.



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