The first Bishop of Beaver, Beaver County, Utah, Beaver Stake. He was born 21 Jan 1826 at Hock Hocking, near Burlington, Ohio. The son of Reuben Farnsworth and Lucinda Kent. He was baptized in 1842 and emigrated to Salt Lake Valley in 1848, having charge of a team belonging to Franklin D. Richards in crossing the plains. He settled at Pleasant Grove, Utah Co., Utah, about 1851 and soon afterwards went to Fillmore and thence to Beaver in the latter part of 1856. The following year (1857) he was ordained a Bishop and set apart to preside over the Beaver Ward, which position he held until 1864. Subsequently, when the Beaver Stake of Zion was organized in 1877, he was chosen as a member of the High Council. He also acted as probate Judge of Beaver County and served as a member of the Territorial Legislature. Having learned the Indian language, he rendered at different times efficient service as an interpreter for the Piute Indians who loved and respected him very much.

He was a farmer and stock raiser and a leader among men. He died at Beaver 5 Aug 1887. The Bishop married 4 wives as follows: Margaret Yates to whom he married 29 Oct 1848 and who had 9 children; Margaret Adams who became the mother of 7 children; Agnes Ann Patterson, whom he married 10 Dec. 1858, and who bore him 10 children; and Mary Priscilla Griffiths whom he married 15 June 1860 and who bore him 4 children.

PHILO T. FARNSWORTH  
No. 38 Nauvoo 12 Feb. 1845

A blessing by John Smith, Patriarch, upon the head of Philo T. Son of Reuben and Lucinda Farnsworth, born 24 Jan. 1826 Lawrence Co., Ohio. Brother Philo in the name of Jesus Christ, I lay my hands upon thy head by the authority vested in me to bless the fatherless, and seal upon thee a blessing of a father, even all the blessings of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, with the priesthood which was sealed upon the head of Ephraim, with the inheritance of Ephraim, even to the uttermost bounds of the everlasting hills, thou shalt go forth as a mighty man, and thou shalt prevail against thine enemies, for God shall give thee power, to overcome them, and thou shalt have wisdom to confound the wise, and the learned of this generation, and power to put the armies of the aliens to flight, and to do any miracle which will roll forth the work of the Lord in the last days; thou shalt gather thousands from many nations and love them to Zion, and no power shall stay thine hand; thou shalt be able to speak the language of my people, shall have power to search out all the secret plans that are devised for thy heart; and thou shalt not be caught in a snare by the crafty; thou shalt have an inheritance with the children of Joseph; possess riches to the full, have a numerous posterity, that shall put ten thousand of enemies to flight, even two of them;? And thy name shall be remembered among the Saints for good forever; thou shalt magnify thine office in righteousness, fill thy mission with honor, return to Zion with thy thousands; inherit all the blessings of the Redeemer’s kingdom, reign on the Earth with him a 1000 years, with thy companion that God will give thee; be faithful, and not one word shall fail even so, Amen

A. Carrington, Recorder
Typed into Computer 13 Oct 2002 Kathleen J. Woolf, Idaho Falls, Id. I have a copy of the
original blessing.