

Cast List: Pioneer of San Francisco Bay

Part 1: Beginnings

<u>Character name</u>	<u>Skills required</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Size of Part</u>
Narrator	act	any	large
John Horner	act, sing	teen-22	large
William Horner	act, sing in group	under 12	small
Father Stacey Horner	act, sing	40-50	small
Erastus Snow	act, sing	under 35	small
Elizabeth Imlay	act, sing	teen-22	medium+
Joseph Smith	act, sing	under 40	medium-
Mob Leader Col. Wms	act	any	small
Mobber	act	any	small
Brother Woodward	act	under 50	small
Sister Woodward	act	under 45	small
Their son	act	under 12	small
Orson Pratt	act	any age	small
Brannon	act	under 45	small

Pioneer of San Francisco Bay

Part 1: Beginnings

Narrator: Welcome to our presentation, Pioneer of San Francisco Bay--Part One.

Tonight/today we will introduce you to one of the important figures in California History—John Horner, pioneer. It isn't likely that you learned about him at school or even in California history books. However, his contributions to the Bay Area are a legacy that we still enjoy.

AV1: shot of farmer's market

It was John Horner who started the first farmer's market in San Francisco.

Farmer's Markets became popular at that time and we continue to enjoy open-air markets with their fresh fruits and vegetables in many communities across the state.

John began ...

AV2: shot of a ferry

...the ferry system we still use.

He planned roads...

AV3: Shot of freeway

... that now take us from Berkley to Fremont and founded several Bay Area towns. Those are only a few of his accomplishments.

Tonight is Part One of our series on Pioneer History. We will share with you what brought John and other founding pioneers to the Bay Area. Part Two tells of their dangerous voyage aboard the Ship, Brooklyn. Part Three shows how these early pioneers made San Francisco's Bay area blossom into the thriving, prosperous place we see today. We invite you to return to see those presentations.

But now, it's time to begin our story.

Imagine yourself in New Jersey—the time is the 1830s. Let me introduce young John Horner walking in the early morning toward his father's fields. He is an ordinary young man with the usual questions about life—why am I here, where did I come from, what sort of life will I lead?

Song: I Long to Know

AV4: during song show shots of early morning, birds in the meadows, trees or sky, farm land, etc.

John: THE COCK CROWS AT THE BREAK OF DAWN
AND IN THE HEAVENS, ONE LAST STAR LINGERS ON.

IS IT MY GUIDING STAR¹, CALLING ME FROM AFAR?
WHY WAS I BORN? HOW WILL I FIND
A PURPOSE ON THE EARTH? A PEACE OF MIND.
WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL IT MAKE IF I LIVE OR I DIE?
DO I MATTER AT ALL TO THAT WIDE BLUE SKY?
I SEARCH AROUND ME EVERYWHERE.
I WALK THROUGH THE FIELDS AND I FEEL THE AIR.
I STOP AND I LISTEN, BUT NO ONE'S THERE.
WHAT AM I? WHO WILL SAY?
WILL I FIND THE ANSWER SOMEDAY?
WHY WAS I BORN? HOW WILL I FIND
A PURPOSE ON THE EARTH? A PEACE OF MIND?
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE IF I'M FALSE OR I'M TRUE?
DOES ANYONE CARE WHAT I CHOOSE TO DO?
WHO, THEN, WILL SHOW ME THE PATH I SHOULD GO?
WHY AM I HERE? I LONG TO KNOW!

William: (*age 10, enters*) John! Father's calling you!

Father: (*enters carrying a rail for the fence*)
John, William, no dawdling. We *must* finish the fencing today.

Narrator: (*over the intro to the next song*) In those days, if you planted a field

Sound: Start New Jersey Morning recording

....you had to protect the crops from wandering animals, so John's family
laid out cross-rail fences.

AV5: (Show picture of rail fencing)

Song: New Jersey Morning (excerpt)

FATHER: NEW RAIL FENCE. THAT IS HOW
TO SAVE OUR CORN FROM THE COW.
IF YOU WORK UNTIL YOU'RE BEAT
YOU'LL ALWAYS HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT,
LIVIN' LIFE UPON THE LAND.

(*family sets pieces of the fence into position*)

ALL: LIFT AND CARRY, LAY THEM STRAIGHT,
ALL THE WAY TO THE BARNYARD GATE.
LIFT AND SET THE NOTCH IN PLACE,
THEN DRIVE THE CORNER BRACE.

MOTHER: WHEN THE PLANTING WORK IS DONE
YOUR SCHOOLING WILL HAVE BEGUN.
BY YOUR EFFORT YOU'LL ACHIEVE

¹ The concept of a guiding star was important to John Horner. See "Adventures of a Pioneer, Embracing the Struggles and Triumphs of a Long and Busy Life," by John M. Horner, *Improvement Era*, Vol. VII, May 1904, No. 7.

ANY DREAM YOU CAN CONCEIVE,
LIVIN' LIFE UPON THE LAND

ALL: STUDY HARD WHAT YOU'VE BEEN TAUGHT,
WHAT'S INSIDE IS WHAT YOU'VE GOT.
USE YOUR MIND, JUST SIMPLY TRY, AND
YOU'LL BE SMARTER BY AND BY.

JOHN: I'LL RUN FASTER.

KIDS: I'LL RUN FASTER.

JOHN: I'LL JUMP FARTHER.

KIDS: I'LL JUMP FAR.

JOHN: I'LL DIG DEEPER.

KIDS: I'LL DIG DEEPER.

JOHN. I'LL WORK HARDER.

KIDS: I'LL WORK HARD.

JOHN: WITH THIS KNOW-HOW, IT WOULD SEEM,
I COULD DO MOST ANYTHING!

ALL: WITH THIS KNOW-HOW, IT WOULD SEEM THAT
WE COULD DO MOST ANYTHING!²

AV 5b: another split rail fence

Narrator: John noticed that his father couldn't plant in the corners of the fence. The horses plowed in a straight line. These corners were left untilled. John and his brother, William, asked permission to try potato farming in the corners of the fence line. This is where he learned first hand the value of hard work. The corners could not be plowed to loosen the soil. The ground had to be loosened by hand. So every day after chores were done, John and his brother stayed in the fields and worked the corners of the fence.

One day they came home to find visitors.

AV6: (photo of Samuel Smith walking with Book of Mormon in hand)

Theses visitors were missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints bringing with them a newly-printed book called the Book of Mormon.

This book contained a history of early inhabitants of the Americas...

AV7: (a painting of Nephites visiting with the Savior)

...and shows that the early Americans knew of Jesus Christ and followed his teachings.

When John's father asked why the missionaries believed the message in the book, one of the missionaries shared this personal experience:

Song: Testimony of Erastus Snow

(Erastus)

² John's personal standards quoted by Carter, p. 548.

IF YOU WOULD ASK THE FATHER WITH REAL INTENT,
TO KNOW IF THESE WORDS ARE TRUE,
IF YOU HAVE FAITH IN CHRIST,
HE WILL MANIFEST THE TRUTH UNTO YOU.

AND WHEN I READ THIS PROMISE, MY HEART DID BURN TO KNOW,
“HOW CAN IT BE
THAT GOD WOULD SPEAK TO SOMEONE AS SIMPLE AS ME?
HOW CAN IT BE THAT THERE ARE MORE SHEEP TO FEED?
HE CAME TO THIS EARTH, WHAT MORE DO WE NEED?
OH, HOW CAN IT BE? HOW CAN I SEE?
YET THESE WORDS, THEY MOVE ME SO.
OH, GOD IN HEAVEN, I NEED TO KNOW!”³

THEN HE ANSWERED. WHO'D HAVE KNOWN.
IN MY STILLNESS, I'M NOT ALONE.
GOD IS SPEAKING. HE IS CALLING FROM ON HIGH
TO HIS CHILDREN. HE IS ANSWERING OUR CRY
BY CALLING FORTH A PROPHET ONCE AGAIN...ON THE EARTH.

AND HIS VOICE RINGS TRUE AND CLEAR
WITH THIS MESSAGE, “GOD IS NEAR.”
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
HE'S STRETCHING FORTH HIS HAND.

AND HE TOUCHED ME
WITH HIS LOVE
THROUGH HIS SPIRIT
THAT HE SENT ME FROM ABOVE

IF YOU ASK HIM.
IF YOU FALL UPON YOUR KNEES,
HE WILL TELL YOU.
HE WILL MANIFEST THE TRUTH UNTO THEE.
ASK AND SEE.⁴

Narrator: John was fascinated with the Book of Mormon, reading it every spare minute he could find. A young school friend, Elizabeth Imlay, wondered at John's preoccupation with the book.

Elizabeth: (*coyly*) Hello John.

John: (*not looking up*) Hello.

³ Read *Erastus Snow, The Life of a Missionary and Pioneer*, Andrew Karl Larson, University of Utah Press, 1971, Chapter 1 – St. Johnsbury.

⁴ Moroni 10:4; 1 Nephi 15:11; Enos 1:15; Matt. 7:7-8

Elizabeth: *(circles behind him, looks over his shoulder)* What's so engrossing?

John: *(still not looking up)* hmm?

Elizabeth: *(hands on hips, daunted by the lack of attention, moves around to study him, then not getting anything from him, abruptly snatches the book away).*

John: *(jumps up, going after her)* Give that back!

Elizabeth: *(holding it out of reach)* Why should I?

John: Because it's not yours.

Elizabeth: It's not yours either, so there.

John: I'll thank you for minding your own business.

Elizabeth: That's what I'm doing. You haven't spoken to anyone for days.

John: So?

Elizabeth: So, what is going on?

John: I've been busy. Our crops. All that.

Elizabeth: Potatoes--or this? *(Holds it out; He tries to get it. She puts it behind her back).*

John: Fine, if you want to be that way, keep it. *(He starts heading away)*

Elizabeth: *(obviously frustrated)* Wait, wait John. I didn't mean--

John: Yes you did. *(slowing to wait for her)*

Elizabeth: *(running to catch up with him)* No, I didn't. Here, you can have your old book.

John: It's not old! *(he takes the book, miffed)*

Elizabeth: Let's not fight.

John: *(still perturbed)* You started it.

Elizabeth: And so I did, I admit it.

John: *(surprised, maybe a little pleased)* You do?

Elizabeth: I do. Now tell me, what is so important in this book?

John: *(he doesn't answer, not trusting her)*

Elizabeth: You can tell me. Go on, I really want to know.

John: *(shakes his head, no)*

Elizabeth: I have an idea. You could come over for supper tonight--and tell us about your new book.

John: *(looks surprised, pleased, like he'd die to come, but...sighs)* Can't. Promised to help my father after supper. But Elizabeth, you're right. This book. -- I wish I could tell you.

Elizabeth: *(sits as if she won't budge until he shares his heart)* I'm listening.

John: I started reading it and can't put it down.

Elizabeth: That-- is obvious.

John: *(ignoring her teasing)* Seriously, Elizabeth, It's hard to explain.

Song: God's Spirit (song and dialogue, duet)

John:

YOU KNOW, I HAVE SO MANY DREAMS, AMBITIONS OF WHAT WILL BE,
BUT ALL MY HOPES ARE SHADOWS THAT I CAN'T CLEARLY SEE.
HERE IN THE PAGES OF THIS BOOK
I FOUND A YOUNG MAN LIKE ME.
WITHOUT CONNECTION,
SEEKING DIRECTION,
WONDERING WHAT HE COULD BE.
(referring to the Book he is holding, John continues)
GOD'S SPIRIT WHISPERED THROUGH THE WORDS,
"YOU'RE MY SON. COME TO ME."
HE HAS A PLAN FOR EVERYONE, A WAY TO FIND WHAT YOU CAN BE.
NOW I KNOW THAT GOD IS REAL, LIKE YOU AND ME.
I FELT HIS LOVE, YOU SEE.⁵

Music continues under....

⁵ D&C 6:23, II Nephi 9:6, 13; Eph. 3:19; 1 John 3:1

Elizabeth: So you believe this book is from God?

John: I know what I feel inside.

Elizabeth: But people say God put all his words in the Bible—there won't be any more words from God.

John: People say all sorts of things, but that doesn't make their opinions true.

Elizabeth: Well, what does?

John: What you feel in your heart. Read it, then YOU can decide.

(John)

GOD'S SPIRIT WHISPERED THROUGH THESE WORDS,
BRINGING CALM TO MY SOUL.
HE HAS A PLAN FOR EVERYONE, A WAY TO REACH EVERY GOAL.
NOW MY HEART FEELS SOMETHING BRIGHT FROM HEAVEN'S HEIGHT,
AND I CAN FEEL GOD'S LIGHT.

(Elizabeth)

THIS NEW WORD OF GOD, COULD IT BE THAT IT'S TRUE?
MY MIND DOESN'T KNOW, WHAT TO THINK, WHAT TO DO.
YET MY HEART FEELS SOMETHING BRIGHT FROM HEAVEN'S HEIGHT,
AND I CAN FEEL GOD'S LIGHT.

Narrator: Through prayer and pondering about the teachings he read in the Book of Mormon, John was convinced that it was true. He was baptized shortly after reading it and immediately decided to walk to Nauvoo, Illinois so he could meet the man who had translated it. This man was Joseph Smith.

I don't know how many of you would be willing to walk from New Jersey to Illinois, 1056 miles, just to meet someone who translated an old document, but the long walk did not seem impossible to this enthusiastic young man. When he arrived he found the citizens of Nauvoo hard at work building the new city.

AV8: (show pictures of Nauvoo)

Glowing with enthusiasm John offered to help grow crops to feed the workers. Instead, he was trained to be a brick mason, a skill that he brought with him to California.

In Nauvoo, his dream of meeting Joseph Smith came to fruition. John asked Joseph what a young person just getting started in life should know. This is what Joseph Smith shared with John:

Song: Be Still and Know

(Joseph)

UPON THIS EARTH, SO I HAVE FOUND,

THERE'S CONSTANT NOISE, DROWNS OUT THE SOUND
 OF GOD'S OWN VOICE, SO SMALL AND STILL.
 YET THERE'S A CHOICE TO SEEK HIS WILL.
 CLEAR OUT YOUR HEART. CLEAR OUT YOUR MIND,
 AND THEN YOU'LL START
 TO HEAR THE STILL, SMALL VOICE AND YOU WILL FIND
 YOUR LOVE FOR GOD WILL START TO GROW.
 YOU'LL LOVE HIS WAYS. YOU'LL LOVE HIM SO!
 A WARMTH AND CALM WILL FILL YOUR THOUGHT
 AS BY HIS SPIRIT YOU ARE TAUGHT.
 SO FOLLOW CHRIST, THE PATH HE TROD,
 TO FIND GOD'S LOVE. YOU MUST BE STILL.
 BE STILL AND KNOW THAT HE IS GOD.⁶

Joseph: Your Heavenly Father loves you—oh, so very much. You have NO idea the depth, the comfort and healing of that love. He wants all His children to return to Him. That is the only place of real happiness. And yet He loved us enough to grant us choice. We get to choose what we will do with ourselves—to choose right from wrong. This is success. It's not always easy, because in some cases we must chose between honorable goals⁷. Do not let the enticements of the world distract you.

(clapping the young man on the shoulder, looking deeply into his eyes) John, the measure of a man is not found in riches, but in his heart.

AV9: pictures to illustrate heavenly help, pondering, prayer

Song: Be Still and Know Chorus

Music of choir emphasizes that this is true as they sing:

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! BE STILL AND KNOW. BE STILL AND KNOW.
 BE STILL AND KNOW—GOD LOVES YOU SO!

Sound: (over top of Nauvoo construction music which needs to slowly fade out)...

Narrator: John stayed the summer to help build the new city which at it's zenith rivaled Chicago in size. Returning home, John harvested his potato crop, giving him a feeling of success—the money he earned? About \$5.00.

Upon returning home, some things had changed. Elizabeth Imlay had grown up into a lovely woman. John and Elizabeth renewed their friendship and it wasn't long before he asked her to marry him—a poor farmer with only a few potatoes to show for his efforts. But Elizabeth had faith in him and consented to be his life companion.

⁶ D&C 101:16; "The Times in Which We Live," Oct. Conference 2001 Hinkley; 1 Kings 19:12; D&C 85:6; 1 Nephi 10:17

⁷ Titus 1:2; Moses 1:39; 2 Nephi 2:16, 27; "Weightier Matters," BYU Devotional, Dallin Oaks, 9 Feb 1999.

Song: In My Father's Field

(John)

PLANTING IN THE CORNER OF MY FATHER'S FIELDS.
WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE DREAMS I DREAM?
WHAT GREAT POSSIBILITIES FOR THE MAN WHO DARES
TO PLANT HIS HEART IN HIS FATHER'S CARE?
FARMING'S NOT GLAMOROUS.
IT REQUIRES A LOT OF TIME UPON YOUR KNEES.
IN MY POCKET THERE'S NO GOLD, ONLY POTATOES FOR SEED.
GATHER IN THE HARVEST FROM THE CORNER YIELD,
SO NOTHING'S LOST FROM THE FATHER'S FIELD.
WHEN WE COUNT THE HARVEST, WHAT WILL BE REVEALED?
A FARMER CAN WORK MIRACLES IN THE FATHER'S FIELD.⁸

Narrator: The young sweethearts planned to marry, then move to Nauvoo and become part of that pioneer community—but bad news reached them. Joseph Smith had been murdered by a mob. The people of Nauvoo were threatened with extermination if they did not leave the city, leave the state, leave the country. Appeals to the President of the United States and Congress fell on deaf ears. People were driven from their homes and had nowhere to turn.

Recording: Mob Scene

AV10: scenes of mob violence? People fleeing homes or homes on fire

Setting: An interior room suggested by a bare wood table and a few chairs represents a home in Nauvoo. A single candle or lantern (lit) sits in the center of the table. Sister Woodward walks her sick baby. Lights come up softly to illuminate scene. Suddenly gunshots are heard as a mob rushes the cabin. The husband and son enter the kitchen area. The son grabs a chair.

Acting Suggestion: See piano/vocal score for timing of dialogue.

Woodward: Son, remember what Brigham Young counseled. We're not to resist the mob.

Colonel Levi Williams: That's right, sonny. We wouldn't want anybody hurt now, would we? *(grabs the chair, throws it aside, then puts a gun to Woodward's head)*
You know and I know that Joe Smith is the biggest liar of all time. Say it, Joe Smith is a false prophet!

Son: You leave my father alone. Joseph was a true prophet and you killed him!

Mobster: One more word out of you and your father's a dead Mormon *(pushes son*

⁸ Matt. 13:3; D&C 4.

away).

Colonel Williams: Old Joe's duped these poor people. Right?

Mob: right!

Colonel Williams: When Mormons are around, is your property safe?

Mob: No!

Colonel Williams: Is this the kind of people we want in Hancock County?

Mob: No!

Woodward: We've promised to leave as soon as spring arrives.

Sister Woodward: We've already started packing.

Colonel Williams: Well, ain't that a fine coincidence. We've come to help you out. All right, men, move 'em out (*Mob begins throwing chairs out of house*) Woodward, you've got exactly two minutes to pack up and move out.

Mob begins to spread Kerosene around the room.

Family hurriedly picks up what they can and exits. Mob Leader takes candle, pretends to throw it into house.

Sound: explosion, fire burning, rain pouring, children crying, women trying to comfort them, mob shouts, etc.

Narrator: Members of the church had nowhere to go. Brigham Young, the new leader of the people instructed everyone to leave the United States as quickly as possible, head west where they could make a new start away from persecution and death. The poor people of the east coast had no money to buy covered wagons and oxen. They held a conference in New York to discuss their predicament:

Pratt: My dearly beloved brothers and sisters in Christ. Despite the banner of freedom which flies above this land, we are a people no longer protected under its promised liberty. We have endured one continual scene of the most horrid and unrelenting persecutions...for the last sixteen years.⁹

Pratt: There is no choice. We must leave. Sell your property and personal belongings so you can prepare for the journey. Elder Samuel Brannon has been appointed to preside over those who can't afford a wagon and team.

⁹ Read *History of the Church* 7:520-22; Times and Seasons 1 Dec 1845; "Some Went by Water" by Audrey Gertsch, p 1-2; "Voyage of the Brooklyn," Lorin K. Hansen, p. 47.

Brannon: (*stands and addresses the group*) We have chartered a ship, The Brooklyn. The ship has two decks and the hold is so large that it will carry freight of all kinds. Between the decks, laborers are now building 32 state rooms with bunk beds and a skylight that will open for fresh air and light. We sail on January 24th

AV11: picture of a sailing ship.

Narrator: And so it was that the early settlers of the San Francisco Bay gathered at New York Harbor where they boarded the ship Brooklyn. It was February 4, 1846—the middle of winter with storms sitting out on the Atlantic, ready to pound them into the depths of the sea...but that is the story for another day.

We hope you have enjoyed our presentation and will come back some time soon to see Part II—The Voyage of the Ship, Brooklyn.

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