

Boyle Center #713
Auburn, N.Y. 13021
August 11, 1993

Koreshan State Historic Site
P.O. Box 7 attn Jane M. Hogg
Estero, FL 33928

Dear Ms Hogg,

Thank you for your letter of June 3rd regarding the TEED family and for the booklet "The Koreshan Unity Settlement". Sorry to be slow in answering but I have not been well.

For some forty years my husband and I resided in the Town of Niles, Cayuga Co., adjacent to the Town of Moravia and our address was R.D.1, later R.D.4, Moravia. I am a charter member of the local Cayuga-Owasco Lakes Historical Society with a small museum in the Village of Moravia. We have a very good historical and genealogical collection in addition to the usual local artifacts. I have served as president, secretary, curator, librarian - however needed over the years. My husband died last year and I have moved into Auburn, the county seat. The museum is open April - Oct., Mon. and Sat. 1 to 4 p.m. I'm still able to go down and open each Saturday.

Several years ago an historian friend of mine wrote to me as she had read something about Cyrus Teed. My husband and I were campers who came to Florida for a couple of months each winter after retirement in 1973, and State Parks were our favorite places to stay. So, of course, we made reservations and spent some very enjoyable days at the Horeshan Park. My husband took pictures of the globe and of the welcoming sign.

The enclosed pages are from "Moravia and Its Past" by former Town Historian, Leslie L. Luther, now deceased, and I don't know where he obtained the information he has in his book. I thoroughly enjoyed Carl Carmer's chapter in "Dark Trees To The Wind". The Courthouse records I copied those years ago when I first became "acquainted" with Koresh.

Do you care to comment on that madman and those terrible days in Waco, Texas?

Sincerely,

Mable L. Crosby

P.S. I really don't know exactly what my friend Jean Rademaker left copies of, with you.

his long life here as a dentist, and his brother an honored citizen of like persuasion in Auburn. But Charlie's mind was not highly developed, he stammered, and used "big words", sometimes in the wrong sense. He raised chickens and sold the eggs.

During his young manhood he was quite smitten with one of Moravia's charming young ladies, but shy about the matter. Some confiding friends advised him to send her a box of candy and be sure to put in a card so she would know from whom it came. Ruth was surrounded by her girl friends when she opened it and found a large card in colors, announcing: -CHARLES HORTON - CHICKEN FANCIER - FRESH EGGS AT ALL TIMES-.

Ruth married an Army Officer who became Judge Advocate General of United States Armies. On their visit to her home Charlie met him in the Post Office and said: "Are y-y-y-ou General Green?" "Yes." "Did you m-m-m-arry Ruth Tuthill?" "Why, yes." "Well," said Charlie, "I kn-n-n-ow Ruth. I used t-t-to have in-in-in-intimate connection with her."

Charlie grew up with one of Moravia's young men who became a Congregational minister, Rev. Earl H. Thayer, D.D. They met on the street and Charlie said: "Earl, the L-o-o-ord made people for d-d-d-ifferent things. He made you to p-p-p-preach, and he made me to c-c-clean out hen houses."

Shortly after that Charlie's body was found in his hen house where he had been cleaning it. He now rests with his kin in Indian Mound Cemetery.

CYRUS TEED

From the Moravia Republican of August 14, 1884. The Syracuse, N.Y. Sunday Standard has the following: "Dr. Cyrus R. Teed, a massage doctor whose office is in the Wolf Block on West Onondaga Street, has been called upon by the District Attorney to explain his method of practice. It is charged by a lady who has been his patient for several weeks that by preying on her religious sentiments he has extorted from her

various sums amounting to \$20. Her little boy emptied his bank of \$5 to contribute to the fund. Dr. Teed is the exponent of what the Rev. J. F. Clymer, pastor of the First M. E. Church calls "a peculiar religious belief which is altogether too advanced for the present materialistic world." The honesty of the doctor is endorsed by Rev. Clymer and other reputable citizens.

Dr. Teed is the editor of a periodical called the 'Herald of the Messenger of the New Covenant of the New Jerusalem'. An issue of this paper contains an article headed - "Message Preparatory to the Real Message of Elijah, which will be Given in the Actual Translation of Cyrus, the Lord's Anointed." The lady who claims that she was defrauded by him states that he persuaded her that he was gifted with Divine Power. This descended on him when he was thirty years of age. He announces that when he reaches the age of forty-six he will be translated to heaven, from which he will issue in fifty days, clothed with sacred authority to found a kingdom where all will be love.

Dr. Teed states in extenuation that the money he received was all freely given. He says attempts were made to intimidate him into leaving the city, tar and feathers being threatened. The District Attorney has not decided whether to proceed against him or not. He practices under a certificate from the Electric Medical College of N.Y. in 1868. Previous to coming here he practiced in Moravia where he was looked upon as a crank."

And from the Moravia Republican-Register of January 1, 1909: "Press dispatches announce the death of Cyrus Romulus Teed, 'Koresh 1,' on Tuesday of last week, in the midst of his colony in southern Florida. Many readers of the Republican-Register will remember Cyrus Teed as a resident of this village about a score and half years ago. The family comprised Teed, his invalid wife and a son, and they occupied the house now owned by Mrs. Lucy Fulmer on Grove Street. (In 1964 the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Emperor.)

Here Teed gathered around him several followers, principally if not all, women, and leaving his family

took them to Syracuse where he hung out a doctor's sign. He remained in that city for several years and later founded the notorious Sunset Flat in Normal Park, Chicago. Matters became too warm for the colony and it moved out.

As "Koresh 1" he founded the Koreshan Unity of Co-operation of Western People, and about ten years ago purchased 4,000 acres of land in Florida where he proposed to have a New City of Jerusalem with ten million inhabitants. Although that number has never been attained, it is said the colony has grown to quite a degree.

Teed taught that he should never die, and for that reason his body was not buried but was held by his followers who looked for resurrection on Christmas Day. He leaves one brother, Wilson B. Teed in this village, and another, Oliver Teed in Jordan."

(Note: Koresh is the Hebrew for Cyrus. The "City" he founded in Florida was and still is the village of Estero, fifteen miles south of Fort Myers.)

The Encyclopaedia Britannica gives the following: "THE KORESHAN ECCLESIA, or Church Archtriumphant, a communistic body, was formed by Cyrus R. Teed, a medical practitioner who was born in Utica, N.Y. in 1839. Teed was regarded by his adherents as "the New Messiah now in the World," and many other extravagant views both in science and economics are held by them. Two communities were founded: in Chicago (1886) and at Estero, in Lee County, Florida (1894), where in 1903 the Chicago community removed. Their name is derived from Koresh, the Hebrew form of Cyrus, and they have a journal, THE FLAMING SWORD."

The Moravia Republican-Register of November 11, 1910 gives: "An Associated Press dispatch sent from Bristol, Tennessee, tells of two inquisitive followers of Dr. Cyrus Romulus Teed, so well known to Moravians. The dispatch says: "Curious as to what had become of the body of Dr. Teed, who announced before his death a year ago that he would rise from his tomb and become the Messiah of the Koreshans, two of the cult, according to Henry D. Silverfriend, attempted

to unseal the tomb, but before this was accomplished both were deprived of their reason and died before they could be removed to an asylum. Silverfriend is prominent in the Koreshan colony in Estero, Florida. He said today that Dr. Teed had not yet arisen, but that members of the cult were confident he would come forth as their Messiah in due time. The Bristol Koreshan colony was abandoned shortly after Dr. Teed's death."

Wing T. Parker, a Moravia attorney, was at times impecunious and remiss in his obligations. He would go into a grocery, cut a slice of cheese, lean against the cracker barrel and regale listeners with tall tales while he ate crackers and cheese. When the ice wagon of George Ackerman stopped near his house he would help himself to a generous piece for their needs.

When Pliny Grover ran the Goodrich House he kept his livery carriages clean. While washing one he told his bar keeper, Joe McClintock, to go over town and get him the biggest sponge he could find. Joe soon returned and Wing Parker was with him. When Pliny asked him where the sponge was Joe replied: "You wanted the biggest sponge in Moravia and here he is."

During the 1890's and later, a small group of Moravia business and professional men, known as the "Six Bills" met regularly for social games of poker, or penny-ante. They were Bill Fitts, banker; Bill Nye, commercial salesman; Bill Greenfield, banker; Bill Hewett, doctor; Bill Frost, dentist; Bill Parker, banker. While their meetings were not strictly secret they did not advertise their "doings". Once Bill Nye's wife, who was a good Methodist, found some poker chips in Bill's bureau and wanted to know what those things were doing there!

War of 1812

a Mrs. Bush as owner. This house was razed about 1930 and its lumber used in other buildings. An elderly Moravia lady once stated that this arsenal originally stood on the northwest corner of Main and School Streets, but the statement is questioned. Neither James A. Wright nor Benjamin Allee, early local historians, mention it in their writings. It has always been stated locally as used in the War of 1812, but as there was no military activity in this region during that war there were few local veterans.

The list of pensioners on the Roll as of January 1, 1883 contains sixteen names for Cayuga County, of whom only seven were living in Moravia and vicinity, viz: Alice Odell, Kelloggsville; Eunice White, Locke; Daniel Teed, Moravia; Elinor Ryan, New Hope; Jonathan S. Searing, Poplar Ridge; Jonathan Richardson, Sempronius; and Lucretia Morgan, Venice Center.

This list was from the State President, National Society U. S. Daughters of 1812. The date 1883 may be in error as in the Kelloggsville Cemetery are inscriptions: "Samuel Odell, died Nov. 29, 1874, aged 85 yrs. 6 mos., A soldier of 1812. - Alice, his wife, died Jan. 9, 1880, aged 86 yrs." In 1879 Eunice (Heath) White, widow of John White was living in Locke, age 84 years, but we find no 1812 service for him. He was born in Williamstown, Mass., in 1790 and came to Cayuga County at age fifteen; married Eunice Heath, born Litchfield, Conn.

In the Quaker Corners Cemetery two miles north-east of Moravia Village is a bronze monument with inscriptions: "Daniel Teed, died Jan. 9, 1881, aged 87 yrs. 13 ds. - Elizabeth, wife of Daniel Teed, died Mar. 19, 1877, aged 77 yrs. 1 m. 11 ds. - Erected by Julia Hitt & Caroline Pritts, daughters of Daniel & Elizabeth Teed."

Storke's History of Cayuga County states that Henry Kellogg was a veteran of 1812, in which war he was wounded. He opened a store in Locke soon after the close of that war, and kept it two or three years.

An item in a Mt. Pleasant, Iowa paper states that Samuel Chandler was born in Middlebury, Vt., Feb.

tains 127 names. Moravia is given as the address of 98; Locke, 10; Sempronius, 8; Genoa, 4; New Hope, 2; Venice, 2; Venice Center, 1; Niles, 1; Ogdensburg, 1.

The names under Moravia are: Alfred Atwood, David Atwood, Wm. H. Birdsall, Nathan Booth, Dwight Brown, B. F. Barnes, E. J. Brown, Julius Bush, Wm. M. Bowen, D. R. Baldwin, D. F. Boyce, C. L. Beitz, E. J. Cannon, Geo. Canavan, Geo. P. Clark, E. E. Covey, Orson Clark Leander Cruthers, C. W. Correy, E. J. Crandall, Frank Close, Charles Close, John D. Clark, A. K. Clark, Geo. H. Carpenter, Jonathan Donald, Dwight Day, C. M. Dean, H. Davenport, D. S. Eaton, A. H. Ercanbrack, Addison Ferguson, C. N. Green, Leroy Galpin, D. W. Goodridge, P. Grover, G. R. Huff, C. A. Hinman, H. T. Harrington, H. D. Hinman, B. H. Hull (or Hall), Daniel Harter, Alpheus Hutchinson, Alfred Hoagland, James Ivory, Augustus Impson, J. G. Jaquith, C. H. Lakey, Alonzo Lillie, Jabez Lillie, Orlando Lillie, Wayne Lester, B. D. Loomis, Chas. Lincke, James P. Leach, E. A. Mead, James T. Moshier, A. W. Marshall, H. Marvin, H. Munn, T. Mahoney, H. C. Moyer, F. T. Moss, David Marshall, D. R. Nettleton, D. W. Powers, Geo. M. Peckham, E. E. Palmer, E. J. Patterson, C. A. Rounds, John Richardson, R. W. Reynolds, V. C. Richardson, James S. Stephens, E. M. Sincerbeaux, S. F. Smith, Ira Scott, Thomas Sweet, Jacob Spore, Thos. Sandwick, John A. Thomas, John Tiffit, S. M. Titus, Wm. Tidd, John Tuthill, O. F. Teed, W. B. Teed, D. Thompson, E. R. Wands, C. Whiting, T. J. Webster, Wm. Ward, E. J. Wilson, C. K. Wood, L. B. Welton, Joseph Whitmore, Jas. B. Webb, W. V. Walker.

From Locke: E. M. Bush, I. J. Bennett, Anthony Barhite, Harry M. Dean, T. M. Guest, M. M. Johnson, G. F. Morey, Levi Pearsall, A. J. Slocum, Jos. Spore.

From Sempronius: Oscar A. Brown, Willis Collier, A. M. Cuykendall, Sylvanus Finch, H. H. Johnson, V. A. Kenyon, Barton Morse, David Wilcox.

From Genoa: B. I. Avery, Arthur B. Fox, A. H. Green, Joseph A. Wood.

From New Hope: George R. Cook, B. F. Lewis.

QUAKER CORNERS CEMETERY: Wm. Tidd, Benjamin Reynolds, Joseph B. Miller, Daniel Teed, John H. Shaw, George Shaver, Henry Austin, William Hale, Joseph Stanton.

ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY: Timothy Mahoney.

It will be noted that the above lists include the known locations of the Revolutionary and 1812 veterans.

To recount the stories of heroism, suffering, sacrifice, and the fantastic tales of the local veterans would take a volume. Their military records are on file and available in the War Department at Washington. But the individual stories will soon be lost to oblivion unless preserved in print, and herein are given a few of local interest.

In a Memorial Day observance at Moravia in the late 1870's, Rev. John A. Bowman, himself a veteran, read two lists of veterans; one, of those who died in, or as a direct result of battles; and one of those who suffered injuries but survived. - 2nd Lieut. Geo. C. Stoyell, 9th N.Y.H.A., died in the Capitol; Sergt. Edgar B. Warren, 19th N.Y.H.A., died at Portsmouth, Va.; Samuel Andrews, 19th N.Y.H.A., killed at Little Washington, N.C.; Jerome Palmer, shot in the trenches at Cold Harbor; Capt. J. P. Jewett, 160th N.Y.V., died at home of wounds; Sergt. Dorwin F. Wright, 9th N.Y.H.A., died of fever at Washington; David S. Gould, 75th N.Y.V., died of wounds received at Ft. Brisland; Col. Wm. H. Baird, 126th N.Y.V., killed at Cold Harbor; Charles Tuttle, 111th N.Y.V., died at Newark, N.J.; Proctor Mellen, died of fever at Fortress Monroe; William Moss, starvd to death in Jeff Savis' hellish cesspool at Andersonville; Lieut. Edgar S. Moss, died a prisoner at Charleston, S. C.; John Stoyell, 160th N.Y.V., died of fever at New Orleans; William Shimer, 111th N.Y.V., killed at Bristow Statio, Va.; Jonathan Jenkins, died of small-pox at Washington; Warren A. Robinson, died at Washington of typhoid fever, Sept. 26, 1862, buried here; Charles E. Root, died at home; Mark Bingham, 75th N.Y.V., died at home; Capt. John S. Cady, killed in battle against Indians; Alonzo H.

Moravia
in 1888

The transparencies borne in the procession were made mostly under the supervision of George W. Teed, he being assisted by B. L. Avery, Hiram Hinman and others, and their work was well done. The following mottoes illustrated by the artists' brush were: "Protection to the Farmer", "We will protect the Mechanic", "We will protect the Laborer", "We will look out for that Surplus", "Decoration Day", "Attorney-at-Law", "I have Eaten at the White House Four Years", "What's the Matter With Harrison? He's All Right", "Twenty-fo yeahs mo", "Salt River", "Grover'll be a Rover when the Robins Nest Again", "Moravia, 184 Majority", "Hurrah! Tiger!"

A large part of the buildings in the village were illuminated, several Democrats making fine displays. While it would be gratifying it would be impossible to designate or make comparison, everything was so good. There were some which exceeded anything ever before seen in Moravia, and we will mention only one. At the Decker grounds on South Main Street (the Stone House), the Goddess of Liberty, represented by Miss Naomi Decker standing upon a pedestal bedecked with flags, presented a very beautiful and pleasing picture, while the house and grounds were brilliant with lights of various hues. Cheer upon cheer was given by the paraders as they passed these premises. We regret that we cannot speak of other houses and illuminations, all of which were worthy of special mention. The success of the parade without mistake or accident was owing to the care and faithfulness of Dr. Mead.

East Niles was represented by 35 men who came in a lumber wagon drawn by four ox teams furnished by George Cady, Charles Springer and George Huff. To the wagon was attached a two-wheeled cart containing a cannon. Oscar J. Brown, Chief of Artillery, his assistants and a large flagstaff. This cannon woke up the echoes of the surrounding hills during the evening and vied with the steam whistle at the foundry.

L. D. Mallery, Esq. of Dryden was called and made a good fifteen minute speech. At twelve o'clock the

Oct. 12, 1877. William V. Walker is building a house on Smith Street (Southwest corner of East Cayuga); also one for Mrs. Cobb on Aurora Street; and for Levi Hoff on Mill Street.

John V. Peacock is building a brick block next north of Jennings and Parker block on Main Street. (The Opera House Block for many years. It burned in 1931 and was replaced by the village fire house.)

Jan. 11, 1878. W. G. Wolsey has sold his residence on Keeler Avenue to Clark Ercanbrack.

Jan. 18, 1878. L. F. Kilborne has sold his house on Park Street to J. H. Lowe. (The George Hubert home of 1964. The Purchase Brothers of New Hope stated that Lucius Kilborne built this house.)

Jan. 28, 1878. J. S. Teed has just built a house on Grove Street.

Feb. 15, 1878. The Elias Rogers house on Church Street has been sold to Amos Hurlbut for \$2,700. (The 1964 home of Ray White.)

Oct. 22, 1880. The Sagers will erect a building adjoining the Post Office on Mill Street. (In 1875 the post office was where the Farmer's Mutual Office is, or possibly the Republican-Register building.)

July 8, 1881. Levi VanEtten has removed the old Huntley house on Grove Street and is building two new houses there. (This would be the two houses next north of Mill Creek on the east side of Grove Street.)

Apr. 7, 1882. Dennis Brothers have sold their block on Main Street to Louis Black for \$8,000. (The double store occupied for years by L. & N. Black; the north side as a clothing store, and the south side as a shoe store by H. H. Barber; and in 1964 by Wade's Furniture Store.)

Apr. 14, 1882. Meadowbrook Farm is the name given to G. J. Letchworth's place west of the village.

June 23, 1882. C. F. Smith is building a residence corner Mill and Grove Streets. (Southeast corner.)

July 28, 1882. Prof. Wright's new house, northwest corner Congress and Allen Streets is to be Queen Anne style and commenced at once. (Home of Mrs. Sophie Close in 1964.)

July 6, 1883. Jay Hunt has completed his building

Teed, Sarah A. Box 262 PW 1887 A32 Cayuga Co. Surrogate's Records Will: Sarah Bequeaths to her beloved husband Jesse S. Teed all her real estate...all her personal property money or any other - to be his own forever.... 25 Feb. 1884

Witnesses: J. Fitch Walker at Moravia Zaretta Teed

Petition of Jesse S. Teed, Town of Moravia, N.Y....on Oct. 25, 1885 Sarah A. Teed departed this life...at that time she was a resident of Moravia. Petitioner the sole executor. Following are the heirs and next of kin of deceased:

- George W. Teed, a son who resides at Moravia, Cayuga Co., N.Y.
 - Wilson B. Teed " " " " " " " " " "
 - Oliver F. Teed " " " " " Auburn, " " " "
 - Emma Norton a dau. " " " Moravia, " " " "
 - Janetta Teed " " " " " " " " " "
 - Melora E. Wakeman " " " " " Walton, " " " "
 - Charles J. Teed son " " " Unadilla " " " "
 - Cyrus R. Teed " " " " " Chicago, Ill. " " " "
- 2 Dec. 1886

Surrogate Record

before Jos. Parker Comm. of Deeds for Moravia Village Signed Jesse S. Teed Wing Parker, Atty. for petitioner says Janetta Teed unable to come.

Teed, George W. Box 286 L.A. 1889 R341 Phebe Teed of Town of Moravia, widow of George W. Teed, late of same place, d. 14 Jan. 1889 - at time of his death he resided in Cayuga Co. Petitioner says he left no Will. Following are next of kin:

- Wilson Teed bro. who resides in Moravia, N.Y.
- Oliver Teed " " " " Auburn, N.Y.
- Cyrus Teed " " " " Chicago, N.Y.
- Melaura Wakeman sister " " " Walton, N.Y.
- Zanetta Teed " " " Utica, N.Y.
- Emma Norton " " " Chicago, Ill.

and children of Charles Teed, the names of whom your petitioner is not known. They reside in Unnadilla, N.Y.

All of full age except the children of Chas. Teed and Zannetta Teed is of unsound mind and she is now in the Utica Asylum.

Property does not exceed \$200. 28 Jan. 1889. Signed: Phebe Teed

The Teeds are not in the 1875 Census. In Index to 1880 Census Town of Moravia 2nd Dist.

- Teed, Jesse W M 64
- " Sarah A. W F 63
- " Geo. W. W M 43
- " Oliver W M 33
- " Netta W F 28

County Clerk Hand record

Census

1892 Census Town of Moravia 1st Dist.

Phebe Teed F 45 housekeeper (p.3, 2nd col. between Loomis & Ames) ibid p.4 2nd col.

Wm. B. Teed M 49 Macinest (Machinest) (This has to be Wilson)

Mary B. " F 45 Housewife

Lillian M. " F 28 Artist Moravia and Its Past - Luther, p.376 "...about 1890 Miss Rose Welton of

Vernon " M 21 Painter Moravia Village, whose father, Lyman

Milton " M 19 Clerk Welton was a village employee, taught

Ethel " F 13 in Montville. Rose quit teaching

Lena " F 10 at this time and went with her mother to Esterc with the Koresh Cult...She was postmistress there for many years.

From Card Index to Cayuga County Census records, 1800 thru 1855

Charles Teed	1840 Moravia	21		
Charles Teed	1820 Semp.		p.168	
Daniel Teed	1820 Sempria		p.168	
" "	1855 Moravia	#195-211		
Jesse Teed	1820 Scipio		p.183	
Micajah Teed	1820 Semp.		p.177	
Solomon Teed	1820 Aurelius		p.86	
1855 Town of Moravia				
#195-211	Log dwelling worth \$50			
Daniel Teed	62	b. Westchester Co.	here 30 yrs	farmer owns land
Elizabeth Teed	54	wife of "	b. Delaware Co.	here 30 yrs
Charles Hickcox	7	grand-child	b. Cayuga Co.	

Please note!
 The original Township of Sempronius/Semp. was subdivided in 1833, Town of Moravia being one of the subdivisions

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