

Written by Josephine Peterson.

The facts, dates and incidents in this history were given to me by my mother's oldest living sister, Sarah Ann Williams Cooper Reynolds. She is living at 85 E Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. She was 66 years old August 13, 1937.

My third great grandfather on my mother's side was William Crosby (or Cosby), born and raised in Ireland. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and served off and on during the whole of that terrible struggle. According to tradition he had several wives. The following is an incident in his life as he told it to his children. It was told in my grandmother's home by Aunt Jane Ballenger Campbell, my mother's great aunt, (our great grandmother) For a number of years she, (Jane) lived in my Grandmother's home in Iowa.

When William Crosby was a boy at home in Ireland he had a boyhood companion who became a very dear friend. This friend met a beautiful young woman who was ^{not} about his social station in life. He became greatly interested in this girl and finally declared his love for her. She returned his affection but her father was opposed to the attentions given his daughter by this young man and forbid them to see each other. They planned a secret marriage which they could not carry out without help. So the young man called upon William Crosby to assist him in getting the girl away from her home.

When it was known what part young Crosby played in this affair, the father of the girl invited him to his home for an interview. He had no idea what he had to meet or what would be said to him, but with true Irish bravery and dignity he went, fearless of the consequences. He said of that visit, "When I got there, I was treated with the greatest dignity and respect. We conversed about all the leading topics of the times and all local affairs, but the subject of the elopement was not referred to."

The entertainment continued until dinner was announced. I was invited to dine with them. When we arrived at the table in the dining room, my host turned to me and said, "We always kneel in prayer before eating. Will you join us?" Which of course I did. In the prayer he asked that I might find a suitable companion and become the father of a beautiful girl whom I adored as he had his daughter. Then that some young, thoughtless person would help to steal her away from me, that I might realize the sorrow I had caused in his home. When the prayer was ended and I arose to my feet, can any tongue describe my embarrassment and confusion? I could not swallow. I was checked and made my escape as quickly as possible."

In the course of time young Crosby married, but the girl he married died in child birth in less than two years, and he was heart broken and despondent. He decided to dispose of all his earthly belongings, leave his native land and try his luck in the new land of America.

Like many others in those days he came seeking a home and comfort in the land across the sea, As time went on and he became acquainted with people he married again. By this marriage he became the father of a daughter and a son of whom he was very proud. His wife died leaving him the sole protector and guardian of his two children, Nancy and Billie Crosby.

During the Revolutionary struggle he was compelled to go with other men to defend the cause of the people. His children ^{were} ~~were~~ left in the care of strangers. At this time dependent children were taken into homes of people who had means. Here they were expected to work in return for food and clothing. Nancy and Billy Crosby were bound over, out into a home where they were often treated cruelly and they missed the love and companionship of their father.

As soon as the war was over William Crosby returned to his home. He married and took his children to live with him. When Nancy Crosby had grown to a young woman she became engaged to a sea captain.

He was a fine young man, prosperous and ambitious and her father approved of this engagement, and was anxious for them to be married. One night at a dance Nancy met John Hartley and fell desperately in love with him. Her father did not approve of young Hartley, and was very sad when she married him against his wishes.

John Hartley never did provide her with a real home or any but the bare necessities of life. She lived in a one room log cabin set upon a hill. She made her own clothes and cared for her childrens best she could. She was now the mother of five or six children and had not heard or seen her father since she had married John Hartley.

One day she was toiling up the hill carrying a bucket of water in each hand. She wore a pair of her husband's shoes, not having any of her own, when her father came to see her. He felt that he could not see her living in such unfavorable surroundings and took she and her family home with him. He was living at this time on the Cumberland River in Virginia.

"Nancy Hartley was the mother of eleven children; Sally who became Sally Caine by marriage, Eli, Mary Ann, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Billie, Johnie, Tabitha and Valota are the ones we have record of.

Later the Hartley family moved into Kentucky. Here Mary Ann met Thomas Ballenger and later married him. He was the son of Elizabeth Lester and Benjamin Ballenger, and had five brothers ^{our Jane} and five sisters, youngest one being ~~our~~ ^{our} Jane Ballenger.

My grandmother Polly Lester Ballenger was about 12 years of age when her parents, Thomas Ballenger and Mary Ann Hartley Ballenger, decided to leave Kentucky. Because of the slavery situation in the south at this time he felt it was an undesirable environment to raise a family. He was going to Iowa. With him were his two brothers, Lucas and John and his sister Jane Ballenger Campbell. Because of a misunderstanding, Thomas Ballenger had with his brothers, the company

divided. Luke and John and their families went into Missouri and Thomas Ballenger went on and settled at Montrose Iowa.

Thomas and Mary Ann Ballenger had eight children; Sylvia Jane, Jesse Ogilston, Nancy Elmore, Sarah Ann, Polly Lester, James Mc Clure, Elizabeth Tabitha and Vileta Coe.

Edward and Edwin Hall, (twins) two young men from Connecticut, living in Iowa since 1824, stopped one day at the Ballenger Home. They had come west to homestead and were looking for a desirable place to locate. Jane and Nancy Ballenger were attractive young women and the young men from Connecticut were favorably impressed with them. After staying at the Ballenger home for a few days they went on and located 160 acres of land each in Polk County, Iowa, where the city of Des Moines now is.

After they were located they felt the need of companions and decided to return to the home of Thomas Ballenger and persuade Jane and Nancy to marry them. One morning when Nancy Ballenger got up, Edward and Edwin Hall were sitting on the fence whittling. She learned later that they were trying to decide which one would have Jane and which Nancy. Thomas Ballenger went out and invited them in and they told him they wished to marry his daughters. When they returned to their homesteads the girls went with them. Nancy became Mrs. Edward Hall and Jane, Mrs. Edwin Hall.

Thomas Ballenger heard the Gospel while they lived in Montrose, Iowa. The children later became members of the Church. Grandmother Polly Ballenger Williams told her children, in later, how as a girl of 16 she had watched the saints leave Nauvoo. She crossed the river and went into the Temple. Jessie Ballenger was baptised while they lived at Montrose. Nancy joined the church and she and her husband, Edward Hall, came to Utah with the saints in 1847. 1850

Thomas Ballenger and his family next moves into Mahaska County, Iowa. Sarah Ann had married

John Norley and was living in Hopewell, Iowa. Her father went to visit her and stayed about a week. His sons Jessie and James were digging a well for a Mrs. Duncan as he returned home he called to see how they were getting along. He felt ill and went into the houseto rest on the lounge. He died before Jesse could get out of the well and come to him. He was 50 years of age.

Polly Ballenger was at home with hermother and two sisters, Tabitha and Vilota. This is a dream she had just before her father died.. A knock came to the door and when she opened the door, there was a pale horse in the yard with two riders, men and a child. The man gave a greeting and then went away, the horse leaving just one track. This is her interpretation of the dream. the man was her father, the child was her sister Tabitha who died in one year. The track (one) meant the lapse of time one year. Grand mother Ballenger and her family moved near the small town of Peoria.

Charles Hall Williams married Polly Lester Ballenger 3 July 1849. They had 11 children. They lived on a farm of 160 acres in the Richland Township about 16 miles west of the county seat in Mahaska Iowa, Iowa. The Williams moved to Utah in 1876.

One day Edward Stevenson, an Elder of the Latter- Day Saint Church called to see Grandmother Williams. Her sister Nancy Ballenger Hall, who was now living in Utah, had sent him. He wanted to be directed to the home of another sister, Sarah Ann Finfield, where Jesse Ballenger was very ill with tuberculosis. Jesse Ballenger had requested the elders come and administer to him. Grand father Williams was always negative toward the mormons and their religion. Grandmother and the older children were very much interested inthe Mormon Church and would have joined the church before this but Grandfather forbid them to have anything to do with the Mormons and would not let them read their literature. He was a man who did a lot of reading and liked a good argument about religion. He bought the Book of Mormon and other literature offered by the missionaries and locked them in the trunk. The older children picked the

the locks and read the the books and joined the church. The next morning when the Elders left, grandfather laughingly said to him, " Go on down to Jessie and administer to him and if he gets well, I will go to Utah and join the Church",

Jesse was over joyed to see the missionaries. (Elders). Dr. Woodward had said Jesse could not live more than three days. Elder Stevensen administered to him two or three times. That morning (Next) Jesse had a changed feeling come over him, he called Aunt Sally and told her he was either going to get well or his time had come to die. Elder Stevensen and Dr. Woodward were eating breakfast. They came to Jesse's bedside and the elder laid his hands on Jesse's head and blessed him. Uncle Jesse's leg which had been drawn up became straight. He got up from his bed saying, "I am Healed". Dr. Woodward tested his lungs and examined the rest of his body, reporting a great change had taken place. The Dr. was very much impressed and expressed a desire to know more about this religion.

Soon after coming to Utah grandmother Williams was baptised into the church. This made trouble between her and grandfather and they agreed to live their lives separately after that time. Grandfather Williams never did join the church. He was a kind husband and provided well ^{for} his family. They settled at Springville, Utah. Many of the family live around Springville and surrounding towns. Many at Mapletown, Utah.

SARAH SHOCKLY HISTORY *** Written by Brenda Jepson.

These are a few notes Grandmother Naomi Hartley told me. Her Mother Sarah Shockley, was about 70 years old when she had typhoid fever and her gray hair all came out and came in auburn color and fell in ringlets around her neck. She was trim built and small and had dainty little feet. She had been trained as a fancy stepdancer when a girl and when she was around 70 she would go out and dance like a girl to please people. She looked like a young person only for her face, which looked old.

JANE BALLENGER CAMPBELL ----- Written by Brenda Jepson.

Grandmother Jane Ballenger Campbell lived with her son, Francis Marion Hartley, and Naomi Emma Eliza Walton Hartley for awhile after their marriage. Jane was a large woman, southern and fat. She had blond hair as all the Ballengers were blond. Francis Marion had brown hair and eyes and looked like his father. Tom Campbell, his half brother was dark too. Francis Marion was older than Tom Campbell and he taught him to swim in the Skunk River.

Francis Marion Hartley was born out of wedlock. His father was William Hartley. For some reason, he and Jane Ballenger never did marry. Later Jane married a man by the name of Campbell. To this union were born two more children, William Tom (Tom) and Lottie. Francis Marion was called both Frank Hartley and Beank Campbell. When Francis Marion (Frank) was about 17 years old, he went to Iowa and looked up his own father, Wm. Hartley. He had married and had a family. He had a large farm on the De Moines River. He took Frank in and claimed him and gave him part of the farm. From here on he was always called Frank Hartley. It was while he was living on this farm that he hired Henry Walton to help him. Later he married his daughter Naomi Emma Eliza Walton.

HENRY WALTON, TAKEN FROM HISTORICAL SOCIETY, TOPEKA KANSAS
and
NEWSPAPERS FROM CHERRYVALE, MONTGOMERY CO. KANSAS.

Military record of Henry Walton: Honorable discharge; enlisted in Iowa; Company C, 15 regiment infantry.

Died, 23 Mar, 1897, at the home of W.A. Ergenbright, Comrade H.W. Walton, aged 82 years 7 months and 14 days. He was born in North Carolina and at 8 years old moved to Ohio with his parents. Then they moved to Illinois, where he grew to manhood. Then with his wife Sarah Shockley, they moved to Madison County, Iowa. There losing his wife, he in 1851 enlisted in the 15th Iowa Infantry and his fatal injury was received at the battle of Shiloh, from which he never recovered. Life has been a blank to him since that fearful day, 35 years ago, and he was a great charge to his friends. He was only a 12 dollar pensioner. Mr. Ergenbright, his son-in-law has cared for him for 23 years. Comrad Walton was an honored member of the Christian Church and Rev. A. M. Barker preached the funeral at the home of his son-in-laws. Hackleman Post 142 and the Relief Corps were in charge of the funeral services.

Mrs. Susanna Ergenbright died at Denison Texas at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C.C. Morgan. She had gone to visit her. Funeral held in First Methodist Church. (Episcopal) Died 21 Oct. 1912. Particulars of cause of death are lacking. Cherryvale, Montgomery Co., Kansas.