

Nancy Eleanor Ballinger was born 23 Oct. 1826 near Jamestown Russell Co. Kentucky. She was the daughter of Thomas and Mary Ann Hartley Ballinger. She married Edward Hall, 2 Feb. 1842 at Brown County, Illinois. From this union were born eleven children.

Three days after Nancy Eleanor's marriage, she and her husband, Edward her sister Jane and husband, Edwin, twin brother of Edward, left their home and family in Illinois and together started for their home in Lse County, Iowa. They all lived together for eight years, but when the marvelous description of California reached them it was decided that Edward and his family were to go to California and acquire land. Edwin and his family were to follow later. In May 1850 Edward, Nancy and their three children started on that long journey across the plains. It was sad to leave the little grave of John Thomas, their baby boy. For protection, they traveled with Mormon emigrants in Capt. David Evans Co. arriving in Salt Lake City 5 Sept. 1850. They made a short stop at Mill Creek, then went on to Provo, Utah, where they rented one large room, in which they spent the winter. Edward, established squatters claim to land in Springville in Sept. 12, 1850. Their fifth child James Edward was born in Provo on the 10th of Oct. 1850. On 10 March 1851 they moved to Springville Utah, They lived for awhile on the North banks of Spring Creek. Aunt Nancy as she was affectionally called was a great favorite among the people. She was a woman of strong nerve, but yet very affectionate and sympathetic. One could always partake of her cheerful spirit. She surely lived up to the tradition of Southern hospitality, She kept an open house for young and old and befriended Indians After her death the Indians mourned, "heap big squaw gone." She bravely met the struggles and hardships of pioneer life. She spun and wove and was a good seamstress and tailor. She dyed her own cloth and to this day some of the madder she planted is growing on the old home lot. With a leach made of two boards put together in trough fashion, filled with wood ashes and put in such a position that water in a pail suspended above it, dripping on the ashes could wash out the lye and drain into a barrel. From this lye, with her scraps of fat, she made soap. She always found time to entertain her grandchildren with games and stories. She acted as a mid-wife very successfully. She assisted at the birth of over 600 Children clothed 300 bodies for their final rest. She told of attending a birth, a death and a marriage all in one day. Her greatest sorrow was the death of her son Neph, who was killed at the age of 21. She was indeed a beloved Mother in Israel. She died in full faith of the Gospel and had many remarkable testinonies of its truth, She died at the age of 63 and left a large postivity. At her death she left 7 living children 56 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

The following prices are quoted from a letter written to her sister Polly in 1863, Calico 40¢ to 60¢ factory 60¢ to 75¢ per yd. Homespun yarn \$5.00 to \$7.50 per bunch. Sugar 75¢ a lb. States yarn \$ to \$10.00 per bunch.

THE LIFE OF NANCY ELEANOR BALLINGER HALL

Nancy Eleanor Ballinger Hall was born the 23rd of October 1826, near Jamestown, Russell County, Kentucky. She was the daughter of Thomas and Mary Ann(Hartley)Ballinger. She married Edward Hall the 2nd of Feb. 1842 at Brown County, Illinois. From this union were born, eleven children.

Her sister Scythia Jane was married the same day to Edward's twin brother Edwin. Three days later, the two couples started for their home in Lee County Iowa. They all lived together for eight years, but when the marvelous description of California reached them, it was decided that Edward and his family were to go to California and acquire land and Edwin and his family would follow later.

In May 1850, Edward and Nancy and their three living children started on that long journey across the plains. It was sad to have to leave the grave of the baby boy who had died the year before. For protection they traveled with Mormon emigrants- in the Captain David Evans Company. Nancy was very impressed with the Mormon beliefs. One record says she had heard and believed the Gospel as a very young girl but because of family opposition was not baptized. At any rate she was baptized by the Captain on July 5, 1850. Edward did not join at this time.

Their youngest child at this time was little Sarah, four years old. Two years before, having on new shoes, she had fallen on a freshly mopped floor and had dislocated her hip. Doctors had tried repeatedly to reset it without success and she was unable to stand alone. Now at the age of four she was a constant care to her mother, who was obliged to carry her about.

Their son James E., who was born shortly after their arrival in Utah wrote:

"Brother Orson Hyde had charge of this train and used a light conveyance and horses in going back and forth among the different companies, whose vehicles were for the most part drawn by slow going oxen and cows. One morning Brother Hyde visited our company and Mother felt inspired to ask him to administer to Sarah. She stood Sarah beside the wagon tongue, a favorite place of the child and saying "I am going to get a good man and ask him to bless you so God will make you well", hurried as fast as she could toward Bro. Hyde, but just before she reached him or could call out, he drove away.

Slowly she retraced her steps, still so full of the great faith that had burned within her that she did not sense her disappointment, as she neared the wagon she heard a shrill little voice calling her wildly, joyously, and to her astonishment her little crippled child came running toward her crying, "I can walk, Mamma, I can walk, I can walk." My mother's faith had made her whole."

The company arrived in Salt Lake City, 2 Sept. 1850. They made a short stop at Mill Creek, then went on to Provo, where they rented one large room for the winter. Their fifth child James Edward was born there, on the 10th of October. In the spring they moved to Springville. For awhile they lived on the north bank of Spring Creek.

During the year of 1851, Edward went on to California, where he acquired land. He became very ill and was healed by Mormon elders administering to him.

He was baptized and returned home.

Aunt Nancy, as she was affectionately called, was a great favorite among the people. She was a woman of strong nerve, but yet very affectionate and sympathetic. One could always partake of her cheerful spirit. She surely lived up to the tradition of Southern hospitality. She kept an open house for young and old and befriended the Indians. After her death, the Indians mourned "heap big squaw gone".

Quoting James E. again:

"During all this time, we were continually surrounded by friendly Indians. They built their tepees in the foothills and straggled through the little settlement begging for whatever they happened to see and want. President Brigham Young had counseled the people to feed the Indians and in this manner avoid fighting them. Added to this counsel was my mother's constant teaching to her children that these people were the remnant of God's chosen people and that they would some day return to His favor and become white and delightful. Moreover she exhorted us to be always kind and friendly toward them, treating them honestly and fairly in every dealing.

I grew up having no fear of them, playing with the children and so accustomed to them, that one eventful day when the Utes from the south, in full war paint, rode through our little village on their way to give battle to the Snakes from the north, at Pleasant Grove, I was surprised and a little indignant when mother hurried me in from the street. The place where that battle was fought is now known as Battle Creek. Yes, for the most part the Indians were friendly and still we knew there were those among them who were treacherous bloodthirsty and who sought continually to stir up strife.

Once during this dangerous period, my brother William, then a boy of fourteen, was placed on a wild horse by an Indian. The horse after plunging about, threw William off. He landed in a pile of rocks and boulders and his neck was broken. I well remember how he looked. They carried him into the house. He was of course unconscious and his head hung limply to his body. Mother sent one of the boys in great haste for Bro. Gardner, who was known among the Saints as a man who led an exemplary life, and a man of great faith and power in healing. They returned with word that Bro. Gardner could not be located in fact the only Elder they could find was a Bro. Cole. Our mother instructed them to go for him at once, but the children demurred, because it was well known the man was dishonest, but mother replied, "He holds the Priesthood and it is the Priesthood I want."

Bro. Cole came and administered to William, who was instantly healed under his hands. Now, I have never for a minute doubted that it was my mother's devout faith that made him well, for Bro. Cole was greatly surprised that such a marvelous healing had been consummated under his hands.

My mother was a practical nurse. There was no such thing here as a doctor. Our reliance was in such simple home remedies as mustard draughts and onion poultices- but more especially, olive oil, properly consecrated. This reliable first aid we were never without, no matter what else was needed. One other remedy mother always had ready for emergencies was a can of sifted wood ashes, which being alkaline, acted as a disinfectant, also as an aid in staunching the flow of blood. But the possession of oil was imperative and we children were taught to put absolute reliance in its healing virtue combined with earnest prayer."

Nancy bravely met the struggles and hardships of pioneer life. She spun and wove and was a good seamstress and tailor. She dyed her own cloth and to this day, some of the madder she planted is growing on the old home lot. She made lye with a leach made of two boards put together in trough fashion filled with wood ashes and put in such a position that water dripping on them from a pail suspended above them, washed out the lye, draining it into a barrel. From this lye, with her scraps of fat, she made soap. She always found time to entertain her grandchildren with games and stories. She acted as midwife very successfully, assisting at the birth of over 600 children. She also clothed 300 bodies for final rest. She told of attending a birth, a death and a wedding all in the same day. Her greatest sorrow was the death of her son, Nephi, who was killed at the age of 21. She was indeed a beloved mother in Israel, and died in full faith of the Gospel and had many remarkable testimonies of its truth.

She died in Springville, Utah, 24 Jan. 1890, aged 63 years and three months, and left a large posterity; 7 living children; 56 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. She is buried beside her husband in the Springville City Cemetery.

The following is a testimonial written for her by William Clegg, Jan. 1890.

"Beloved mother, sister dear, kind sympathizing friend,
 On earth your loving labors at last are at an end.
 Many hearts with sorrow ache, and many vainly weep,
 O'er the treasure they had long possessed, but could no longer keep.
 You will be missed by many o'er whose threshold you have stepped
 To minister in sickness when those in health have slept,
 The fears of others often your calm assurance quelled,
 And the anguish of maternity successfully dispelled.
 Many for your kindness have loved you long and well
 How fervently and truly, no words can ever tell.
 Safely you have ushered in many an infant dear,
 And suitably have others clothed to join another sphere.
 Yes, many in their royal robes your hands have laid to rest
 'Till in the future they shall rise in triumph with the blest.
 And now the time has come dear sister, kind and true
 For loving hands to tenderly perform the same for you.
 Even beautiful in death you look in clothing white and clean
 With prospects far surpassing those of any earthly queen.
 With those who knew and loved you, your memory will remain
 Until among the sanctified we all shall meet again".

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Edward established squatters claim to land in Springville, 12 Sept. 1850. Their fifth child, James Edward was Born in Provo on the 10 Oct 1850. On the 10th of March, 1851, they moved to Springville. They lived for awhile on the north bank of Spring Creek.

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