

## Alexander Robison & Nancy Ellen Wagaman

Alexander Robison was born 23 Oct 1800 at Harrisburg, Franklin Co., Pa. His wife Nancy Ellen Wagaman was born 1801 at Quincy, Franklin Pa. Her father was Andrew Wagaman, and her mother was Catherine Rock. Alexander and Nancy had eleven children, Nancy, Hannah, David, William, Daniel, Catherine, Eliza, Leanna, Franey, Ephraim, Mary Ann. From histories I have-received these children were born at Thomastown now known as Fairview about 50 miles So West of Harrisburg. This makes me wonder If Alexander and Nancy were born there also. Max Rogers says it is a very beautiful hilly, country, similar to Utah. It has a lot of hardwood, clumps of trees, and the beautiful Susquehanna River runs near by.

Elder Angus M. Cannon Mormon missionary converted Alexander to the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in 1854 from Utah. Nancy Ellen was baptized and confirmed by Elder William Tarmen, a missionary from Utah on 15 May 1854. It is believed that the were Quarters, as the story is told of their daughter Franey joining the Church with her friend, after hearing a missionary preach on the street corner. Franey was 16 years old and went to work for an LDS lady who made her a pretty ruffle print dress with blue buttons down the front. This was Franey's 1<sup>st</sup> colored print dress and she loved it so very much as she always wore black and white being Quaker.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 1860 Alexander and Nancy Ellen and their families left all their worldly possessions and started vast for Zion. They traveled by rail and water 2000 miles. They camped at Council Bluff; Nebraska two weeks while preparations were being made for the Charles Rich Handcart Co. This was the 9<sup>th</sup> or next to last Handcart Co. to cross the plains. These tracks with 10 handcart companies lasted 4 years and 3,000 people were transported to Utah and Zion in-this manner. It was their faith and love for their God and one another that brought them through.

A Mr. Green, a merchant from Salt Lake City, Utah, who had several wagons of merchandise to take to Salt Lake Invited Alexander and Nancy Ellen to drive a team of horses and 4 oxen with a load of merchandise. They were not only furnished with transportation, but good food as well. So they didn't have to walk a step across the plains. Alexander was 60 years old and Nancy Ellen was 59 years old.

When they arrived in Salt Lake City Mr. Green gave them a nice comfortable place to live and their food. All Alexander had to do was care for Hr. Greens buggy-team. They lived in Salt Lake City that winter. In the spring of 1861 their youngest son, Ephraim took them to Farmington. Here they rented a one room adobe house, one window and. & small fireplace to do the cooking and heating. They had one old home made table; they made some chairs and burfc beds. Times were very hard and food very scarce. They ate mostly boiled potatoes with salt. Their neighbors felt sorry for them and gave them their small ones. When they would go to the mountains to get wood they would take their pockets full of small cold boiled potatoes and salt. It took Alexander and Ephraim from 1861 td 1864 to scrape up enough money to buy a yoke of oxen "the front running gear of and old wagon. On this they built a small cart. They put all their belongings on the cart and Grandma Nancy Ellen sat on the top of it all. Ephraim got on one side of the oxen and Alexander on the other side of the oxen. They walked over the mountain all the way a distance of 20 miles to Morgan in Morgan Co., Utah.

Alexander Robison died in Morgan, Utah 23 Jan 1878 and was buried at No. Morgan Cemetery. Nancy Ellen died 1.41 Nov 1883 and was buried by her beloved husband Alexander in the No Morgan Cemetery In Morgan Co.Utah.

This is all the information we have been able to glean so far of Alexander and Nancy Ellen. If more is known will you please send it to me at:

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