

JOHANNA CHRISTINA POLSON COOK, Continued

In those days, polygamy was practiced within the Church. Even though Grandfather had other families, he decided to marry Johanna. Johanna Christina Polson married Phineas Wolcott Cook for time and eternity in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City, Utah on September 13, 1878.

Grandfather arranged to send money to Sweden to bring Johanna's mother Ulrika Lundgren to Zion. What a joyous day for both mother and daughter when Ulrika arrived in Swan Creek from the "old country" on September 9, 1879. They had been sure when Johanna left Sweden that they would never see each other again. Ulrika arrived in time to share the joy of the arrival of Johanna's first son Carl, born September 25, 1879. Her second son Moses was born November 20, 1880, and he was always known as "grandma's boy." He learned to speak to her in Swedish and to the others in English. Johanna's third son Kib was also born in Swan Creek on July 4, 1882.

Soon after this, Grandfather moved his youngest family to Logan, Utah. He divided his property between his families and hired his son Alonzo to take care of his cattle. He built a house in the 5th Ward in Logan and moved Grandmother and her family there. This was their home for about seven years. Grandma Lundgren died in Logan on November 9, 1883 and was buried in the Logan City Cemetery.

Johanna gave birth to twin boys, Emer and Omer, on August 18, 1884. Omer died on February 11, 1885 and was buried beside Grandma Lundgren. On March 23, 1886, her youngest son Parley was born, and her youngest child, a daughter Idalia Johanna, was born September 4, 1889.

While the family lived in Logan, Grandfather helped build the Logan Temple, and after it was completed, he and Grandmother did much Temple work for the dead. Grandma told us how happy and blessed she felt that she and Grandfather were given their Second Anointing in the Logan Temple.

When Idalia was six weeks old, Grandfather decided to move his youngest family to Star Valley, Wyoming. They started out in the middle of October. All the family with their possessions were in the wagon with the exception of the two older boys, Carl aged 10 and Moses aged 9 who were on horseback driving the cattle following the wagon. They were caught in a heavy snowstorm between Montpelier, Idaho and Afton, Wyoming and had a very difficult time getting through. Both Carl and Moses in their later life have told us how cold and frightened they were trying to bring those cattle through that heavy storm. We can only imagine the concern of the adults taking little children and an infant through that storm and cold. They arrived in Afton on October

28, 1889 in ten inches of snow. That was always known as the "hard winter of '89." All winter, snow up to four feet covered the ground, and Grandfather lost most of his cattle because they couldn't get feed through the heavy snow. All the settlers who relied on grazing their cattle in the river bottoms that winter lost their herds.

This loss was particularly hard on Grandfather who was then 70 years old and in failing health. Although he managed to build them a cabin and put up a saw mill with the help of his two older boys, he was not able to operate it. Grandfather's health grew gradually worse, and he died on July 24, 1900. It became Grandmother's responsibility to support the family some years before he passed away. She took in washing and worked very hard for very little pay. She raised a vegetable garden and had a cow and a few chickens, but they were very poor as far as money was concerned. She had a sunny disposition, however, and a great love for people and especially for her children. She had an unwavering faith in the Gospel, and this saw her through many trying times. Her children found work as soon as they were old enough, and gradually, things became a little easier.

Grandmother was always very active in the Church. She served as counselor in the stake Relief Society for some years. Many were the times when she cared for a mother and her new baby, going each day to wash and dress the baby until the mother was strong enough to care for the infant herself. For many years, she was in charge of the Temple clothes for the Relief Society. She sewed burial clothes and dressed the dead for many members of her stake. She gave devoted service to the people of the Valley, and they all loved her. In later years, everyone in the Valley knew her affectionately as "Grandma Cook."

Grandma and I were very close. I adored her and was lucky in living close to her when I was little. As I grew older and my family moved from Star Valley to Salt Lake City, Utah, she came to live with us in the winter time. In the summer, my father's business took us to Star Valley, so we stayed with her part of the time there. She was nearer to being an angelic person than anyone I have ever known. She was so warm and wonderful, kind, considerate, and understanding. She was very affectionate and so much fun. She was young in heart.

Grandmother had a very strong testimony of the Gospel. She believed fervently in prayer. I can still remember kneeling beside her by her big feather bed while she prayed for us both in her sweet humble way. I'm sure our Heavenly Father heard her. She was devoted to the Church, and from the time she was converted, her faith never wavered.

After an illness of nine weeks and after, by her request, being dedicated to the Lord by Apostle Melvin J. Ballard, she passed away at our home in Salt Lake City, Utah on February 13, 1929 at the age of 86 years. She was buried beside Grandfather in the city cemetery at Afton, Wyoming.

(By her granddaughter, Eva Covey Madsen)



THE BYRON HARVEY ALLRED FAMILY

The following births were reported in the Byron Harvey Allred family:

BJORN WINTHER PENDLETON, son of Stewart R., Jr. and Laura Bjorndal Pendleton of Salt Lake City, Utah, born 1 January 1971.
REBECCA LOUISE SMITH, daughter of Barton D. and Louise Pendleton Smith of Salt Lake City, Utah, born 1 January 1971.
RANDALL HOWARD DUNFIELD, son of Howard, Jr. and Nancy Oswald Dunfield, born 27 April 1971

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