

Stories of Theron S. Hall, his
Parents and Grandparents.

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Theron

Once there was a little boy named Theron. He and his three older brothers and three older sisters lived with their father and mother in a little home on their father's farm. The farm was once part of the land his Grandfather Hall had homesteaded in the northeast part of Springville.

Theron was taught as a little child to go to bed early and to get up early, too. His sister, Maggie, used to tease him and tell him that sometimes he would wake up before anyone else was ready to and call, "Light the lamp and make a fire." Only he wasn't old enough to say his words plainly and so it sounded more like "Wite the swampe and make a sire."

They didn't have electricity in their home and coal oil lamps were used. Every morning his

Mother would clean and polish the glass lamp chimney and trim the wick. Their stove burned wood or coal. The fire had to be remade every morning using wood shavings and fine wood or kindling to start it.

He always had to hurry home from school to bring the cows from the pasture to be milked. His dog would go with him and he'd carry a sword made of a lath and cut the sunflower heads off as he went by, pretending they were enemies.

When he was five years old, he learned to milk and from then on it was expected of him to help. The cat and dog would follow him to the milking shed and sit waiting for him to squirt milk into their mouths instead of into the milk pail. He said that was more fun.

He loved to climb the mountains near his home and explore Rock Canyon and Skunk Caves and hunt for Kolob rocks (which were really cubes of pyrites of iron). Nearly every day in the summer he'd climb to the springs up Kolob Hollow to drink the cool water. By the time he'd get ^{back} home he'd be thirsty again.

Their washing machine was run by turning a wheel by hand and this was another of Theron's tasks. He also turned the grind-stone for his father to sharpen the tools.

He loved to go barefooted and was always glad when spring came. He seldom wore shoes in the summer. His feet would be ^{tough} enough to go anywhere, even climbing the mountain. His big problem was to try and get into bed without washing his feet but his mother always caught him first.

He picked wild flowers in the spring and dug sego lily bulbs to eat. The foothills were covered then with large sage brush and the sego bulbs were large. He always loved flowers and tried to get the sego lilies to grow in his garden but was never able to do so.

In the summer, he and his friends would go fishing or go to the mill pond swimming. Sometimes in the evening they would build a bonfire and roast potatoes. In the winter they would build forts and have snowball battles or go coasting down Fourth North Hill. It was much steeper then and if they got a good start, they could coast almost to Fourth East.

Theron and his father were both born in Springville, Utah.
Theron Smith Hall

Born
1898



Died
1976

Joseph

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Joseph. He lived with his father and mother and brothers and sisters in a little pioneer town in Utah. It was a pretty little town between Utah Lake and Hobbie Creek Canyon, and was called Springville.

Joseph's first home was made of logs and lumber, but later he lived in a house made of sun-dried clay bricks called "dobies."

A high wall made of dirt and clay and rocks surrounded the little town to protect it from Indians who roamed back and forth through the valley. Joseph and his friends played near the wall and even climbed to the top to run and play on its wide surface.

The boys liked to gather at the mill pond north of town to swim and play. A favorite game was to

choose sides and make clay balls which they threw at each other from the ends of pointed sticks.

It wasn't all play for Joseph and his friends, though. It was their task to herd the cows and see that they didn't stray and get lost.

Although Joseph was only eleven years old at the time of the Black Hawk Indian War, he took his turn herding the stock and acting as a "minute man" watching for Indians.

Then, too, Joseph often went with his father to the canyon for tan bark. This was the inner bark of the red pine tree and was used in making leather.

It was Joseph's job to gather up the bark as it was ready and pile it in the wagon. One time he was busily gathering up the bark, when he turned

to see why their little dog was barking so furiously, and he saw a BEAR! He ran to where his father was working and excitedly told him about the bear he had seen, But his father went on peeling tan bark and said, "Nonsense, Joseph, nonsense. Go on back and pile up the tan bark."

Joseph did as he was told, but the bear was still there, so he hurriedly scrambled into the wagon. The bear would start toward the wagon and the little dog would bark and the bear would stop. They did this several times and finally, the bear, tired and bothered by the little dog's antics ambled off, just as Joseph's father came to see what all the commotion was about. He saw the bear and cried, "You're right Joseph! It is a bear! Big as an ox!"

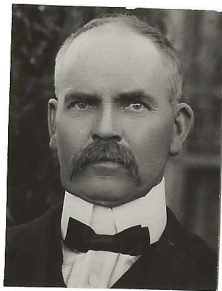
Big as the hind wheel of a wagon! Get the open so we can hitch up and go home!"

And so they did.
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Joseph's full name was Joseph Smith Hall. He had eleven children, like his father, Edward and his grandfather, Jacob.

Two of his children were Owen and Theron.

Born
1854



Died
1916

Joseph Smith Hall

Sarah Sophronia

Sarah Sophronia was such a big name for such a little girl that her family called ^{her} Fron instead (pronounced like "own" with Fr in front of it.)

She was born in her grand-father Thorn's big home in Three Mile Creek. That was a little town in northern Utah and is now called Perry in honor of Fron's father's people.

When she was just a little girl, her mother brought her to Springville to live. Her mother married again when Fron was six years old.

She liked the mountains and often went along the foothills with her step-father after their cows. As she grew older, she often hiked on the mountains with her friends.

Fron worked hard, even as

a child. She gleaned wheat and gathered ground cherries which she scalded and dried and sold, to earn money for clothes. She churned butter for her aunt in exchange for the buttermilk to sell.

When she was eight years old, she started to school. It was held in the teacher's home.

At Sunday School she took her turn reading from the Bible. The children were given small pictures for attendance and learning Bible verses. When four were received they could be exchanged for a larger one.

When she was fifteen, she quit school to earn money doing housework. She worked from early morning until late at night with none of our modern conveniences to make it easier.

Kettles had to be scoured with wood ashes and clothes washed by rubbing on a corrugated wash board. At some places she even had ^{to} knit and do outside chores. For this she was given \$1.25 - not for an hour or even a day but for a whole week!

She did her work well and was always wanted back when help was needed in a home again.

When she was nineteen, she married her step-father's youngest brother, ^{Joseph}. She loved her home and took good care of it. She kept on working hard. She made her own soap and candles. She also knitted her children's stockings and made their clothes, at first by hand. She dried fruit to use and to sell and tended her garden and the flowers she loved.

She also loved music and

often sang at her work. She was always uncomplaining, cheerful and kind.

She loved her home and family very much. She was a quiet, gentle and modest, lovely person.

Her full name was Sarah Sophronia Perry Hall. Her husband was the Joseph of the bear story. She was the mother of eleven children, among them were Owen and Theron.

Born
1859



Died
1936

Sarah Sophronia Perry Hall

Edward

Once there was a little boy named Edward. He had a twin brother named Edwin. They were born in Connecticut. There were eleven children in the family - seven girls and four boys. Their father, Jacob, was a tailor and made coats and suits.

When Edward and Edwin were fifteen years old, they decided to go west "to seek their fortunes. Wherever they went, they worked hard and were frugal with their means. Sometimes they split rails for fences or chopped firewood or did any kind of work they could find.

By the time they were twenty-eight years old, they had 1300 acres of land and a nice house in Iowa. But they had no wives to take care of it or them.

A short time before, they had

gone to Illinois to see a farm that was for sale and there they had met a man - Thomas Ballinger - who had six daughters. They decided to return to Illinois and ask his permission to marry two of his daughters. So they made the trip again. The father was willing and so were the girls, so Edward married Nancy Eleanor and Edwin married Seytha Jane and they returned to their home in Iowa.

They moved several times before settling in the Des Moines region, where they built a grist mill to grind grain.

Once they lived in a place called Skunk Bottoms.

Edwin stayed in Iowa, but Edward took his family farther west, finally homesteading 360 acres of land in Utah, along the foothills east of Springville.

He dug irrigation ditches and planted trees - mostly cottonwood, along the banks. The shady trees, later made a favorite spot to have picnics.

Edward first took up land in Springville, north of Spring Creek, just six days before the original pioneers of Springville arrived. He harvested the wild hay and kept his livestock there, going back and forth from there to Provo, where he and his family spent the winter.

Because of a new addition to their family, a baby boy born in October, Edward had rented a room in Provo and kept his family there until March, when they moved to Springville to live. So, they weren't counted as original pioneers.

Edward was a very quiet man and loved his home and to be in it.

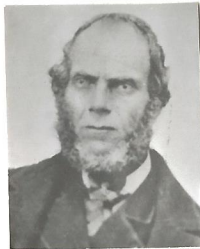
He always liked to get up early and retire early, too. He always worked hard. He cut and hauled wood and fence posts. He and a Mr. Porter built the first grist mill in Springville.

He was ever willing to support his wife, Nancy, in her public life, as he said she was a born leader.

His motto was "Better suffer wrong than to do wrong."

Two of his grandchildren were Owen and Theron Hall.

Born
1813



Died
1886

Edward Hall

Nancy Eleanor

Nancy Eleanor, isn't that a pretty name? This Nancy was born in Kentucky, many years ago. We don't know what she did as a child, but she probably played the games all children play - ball, and hide-and-seek - and she surely worked hard as all farming pioneer children did.

She and her older sister, Seytha Jane, were married the same day to ^{two} brothers, Nancy to Edward Hall and her sister to Edwin. This was the year Nancy was sixteen years old.

In May 1850, Nancy and her husband, Edward, and their children started on the long journey across the plains. They traveled with a Mormon wagon train for protection.

Nancy became interested in the Mormon beliefs and was

baptized. Edward joined the church later in Utah,

Their youngest child at this time was little four year old Sarah. Two years before she had fallen on a freshly mopped floor and had dislocated her hip. The doctors were unable to make it stay in place and so Sarah couldn't even stand alone.

Elder Orson Hyde was in charge of this wagon train and rode back and forth visiting the different companies. Nancy had great faith and she desired to have him administer to her little girl. She stood little Sarah in her favorite place by the wagon tongue and told her, "I'm going to get a good man and ask him to bless you, so God will make you well." She hurried then as fast as she could, but before she could reach Elder Hyde or call out,

he drove away. She slowly re-traced her steps, still so full of the great faith within her, that she didn't feel disappointed.

As she neared the wagon, she heard a shrill little voice calling to her and to her great joy, her little daughter came running toward her crying, "I can walk, Mamma I can walk."

Her mother's faith had made her whole.

all her life Nancy had great faith in Our Heavenly Father and His love and goodness to His children here on earth. She was very kind and sympathetic and helped nurse the sick and take care of the new babies.

She was good to the Indians and befriended them many times. She taught her children to be kind to them and honest and fair with them in every way. When she was gone the Indians

mourned her, too, saying "Heap
big squaw gone."

Nancy was a large woman
and very heavy, too. Some portable
steps were made for her, to make
it easier for her to get in and out
of the wagon when she was called
to go and attend to the sick.
She was never too busy or tired to
go when she was needed.

She was called affectionately
Aunt Nancy and loved by all
who knew her.

Her full name was Nancy
Eleanor Ballinger Hall. Among
her grandchildren were Owen
and Theron Hall.

Born
1824



Died
1890

Nancy Eleanor Ballinger Hall

Henry Elisha

Isn't the name, Henry Elisha an unusual one to give a little boy especially the last half of it? But this little boy had a brother named Otin Alonzo and another named Lorenzo and his father's name was Gustavus Adolphus, so with names like those in the family he probably didn't mind his name, since he was always called by the first part, Henry, anyway.

Henry was born in the state of New York, many years ago. Besides the two brothers, he also had three sisters.

A history of his family tells a very interesting story. It says that when Henry was a very little boy, the family was prepared for the Gospel message by a stranger who visited their home. He talked to them of ancient prophecies and said that before long the Kingdom of God would be established again

on this earth. He also told them they would soon behold an ancient record containing the Everlasting Gospel.

Needless to say, this good family was ready to receive the Gospel when L. D. S. missionaries came to them in 1832.

Coming across the plains to Utah, Henry and his brother Alonge, were often assigned the task of getting buffalo for meat because they were such good marksmen.

Henry was a quiet gentle man greatly loved by his family.

Henry's full name was Henry Elisha Perry. He was a grandfather of Owen and Theron Hall and great-grandfather of L. Tom Perry, an Apostle.

Born
1827



Died
1875

Henry Elisha Perry

Lydia Sophronia

Lydia was the eighth child in a family of ten. They lived in the state of New York. Her mother died when Lydia was a young child and her father brought his family to Utah, to the town of Perry.

During the day, Lydia and her younger sister herded the family's cows and evenings they knitted stockings. They had to finish so many inches before going to bed and Lydia often helped her sister so they could go to bed together.

When Lydia was a young girl, an interesting thing happened to her. She dreamed of finding a little girl on a hillside near their home. The little girl had her hands full of sunflowers and was very thirsty.

As she was telling her step-mother of her dream, her brother came in and told them that some people on the way west had stopped

overnight to rest and their little girl was lost. They had hunted all night but still hadn't found her.

Lydia's step-mother urged her to go to the place where she had seen the child in her dream. Others said the creek was too high and no child could have crossed safely. But Lydia went anyway and found the little girl right where she had seen her in her dream. She even had sunflowers in her hand.

Lydia's full name was Lydia Sophronia Thom Perry Hall. Her second husband was Joseph's eldest brother, William. She was a grandmother of Owen and Theron Hall.

Born
1843



Died
1912

Lydia Sophronia (Thom) Perry Hall