

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF MY FATHER, GEORGE H. RICHMAN by Isabell E. Staker

George H. Richman was born May 15, 1861 at Warwick Maryland.

His parents (John Richman and Sarah Ann Stephenson) had left their native land (England) and started for Zion. But for some reason unknown to me, they lived in Maryland two or three years before continuing their journey to the valleys of the Rocky Mountains.

In June 1862 resumed their journey westward. They traveled by boat and railroad until they reached the Missouri River at Flourance Iowa. From there with a company of Saints led by Henry H. Miller, they traveled by Ox team to Utah. Arriving at Paradise, Cache County, Utah, October 1862.

The trip was almost more than the wee bit of a baby, just thirteen Months old, could stand. A number of times it seemed the little life would go out, but there was a mission, a work for him to do, so his life was spared and the anxious Parents reached their destination with their baby.

They first settled in old Paradise now known as Avon, Utah. But later were ordered to move to the present site of Paradise, where father and his Mother put the first stick of building timber on the new townsite.

PLACES HE WORKED.

At the age of twelve he worked on the Utah and Northern Railroad between Boxelder and Cache County. At sixteen worked on the same road on Bear River. That same year worked on the Logan Temple, it being the fall the Temple was started.

The next spring he went to work on the Railroad at Swan Lake. From here went back home and up Logan Canyon to work for the Temple Lumber Co.

On the 14th of June 1878 while cutting timber with an ax, he cut his foot badly and was unable to work for a long time. This injured foot bothered him at times for the remainder of his life.

In April 1879 he left Utah, driving a freight team for Daniel Hill,, started for Montana. Traveled to Eagle Rock, Idaho now known as Idaho Falls, and watched the first locomotive cross the Snake River.

Drove a freight team all that summer and winter in Red Rock valley, Montana. Herded freight stock in the spring of 1880, worked on the Railroad two weeks, and for the remainder of the year, drove seven head of oxen, and two freight wagons from Spring Hill, Montana to Glendale, Montana, for Frank McKenzie. For a short time before this drove a mule team for Hurt Bullen.

Jan.,1, 1881 piled the harnesses in the wagons, and turned the horses out for the Winter months at Twinbridges,,Montana. Jan. 4, 1881 left Dillon, Montana for home, arriving Jan.8, 1881 after an absence of twentytwo months. April 1881 left for Southern Utah to work on the D.&R. G. railroad. Spent the summer working on the grade and freighting supplies to the camps. Returned home in Dec. 1881. Married Mary W. McKinlay Jan.1,1882 at Paradise Utah. Nine children were born to them. In Oct. 1883 they recieved their endowments in the Salt Lake endowment house.

Father had a burning testimony of the Giseek frin tge seed-siwb-bb gu- Gospel from the seed sown by his pioneer parents. He advanced step by step filling all the offices in the Priesthood but that of a Teacher.

After coming to Teton, Idaho, April 26, 1884 as pioneers of this part of the State, enduting many of the hardships and privations of pioneer life, such as building bridges, digging the canalsand grubbing the sage brush. (I can well remember when ou our farm , the one Isaac Richman and Thomas Smith now own was the one bordering the open range. No Farms on the east, and only the one my brother Henry now own on the south.) With very few conveniences and less money they struggled on, to help build the new community and a home, where we enjoy such great blessings now. They came when the place where Teton now stands was a bare open country. They had to build a homeand in the mean timet two families lived in one house from April 26, 1884 untill Jan. 1885. Father, Mother, Aunt Bell and Uncle Sam Henderson(Mother's sister and her husband) traveled from Cach valley Utah in wagons and reached Reben April26 1884.

In Sept. 1884, my brother Henry and cousin Isabell Henderson were born. She was the first girl born in Teton and he the third boy. They were then living in one room log house with a dirt roof and floor.

The desire to educate their children was upper most in the minds of the little band of people who had gathered in the new place. During the winter and spring of 1884-5 Grandfather McKinley taught school in a log room they had erected for a church where they could gather and worship the God of Israel, renew their Covenants and receive the spiritual strength they so much need in their trying but humble circumstances.

The only flour mill in the valley was located at Rexburg. In the spring of 1885 the mill broke down. It took some time to get the extras and get the mill running again. There were no automobiles and the nearest railroad was at Eagle Rock. (now Idaho Falls).

But where there is a will there is a way. A small old fashioned coffee mill was kept busy by Father and Uncle Arch. (Mother's brother). When the school day was over and grandfather returned home from school, he was rested by the hum of the coffee mill, as it was kept busy by him while the others did the evening chores. In this manner the wolf was kept from the door, by grinding the wheat through the little old coffee mill. Thus the coffee mill did its share of pioneering and the family had cereal and bread (such as it was) while waiting for the repair of the mill.

Father filled many positions of trust in church capacities, during the early days of Teton as well as later in his life. Was appointed second assistant of the Sunday school in June 1884. Was also first counselor in the Young Men's Mutual Association during 1884. He was put in Superintendent of Sunday school in Feb. 1885, and Pres. of Mutual in 1886. Released from Sunday School in 1886, appointed Superintendent again in 1888. Was Superintendent of Religion class in 1904. In March 1904 went on a mission to the Northern States with Chicago, Ill., head quarters. He had a growth in his nose and had to be operated on, it left him in such a weakened condition he was released to come home nine months later. To return home after spending such a short time in the mission brought many regrets. He so desired to spend more time and search out some honest souls who would be ready to accept ~~the help and advice~~

the gospel message and thus in part pay the debt of gratitude to the Mormon Elders who found his parents in far off England.

He was released from his position in the Religion class in 1904 when he left for his mission and again resumed it in 1908. He worked faithfully at this untill Sept., 24 1924. He was school trustee several different times and held many other civic positions. He was old folks committee chairman from the fall of 1905 untill he moved to Pocatello July 28, 1928.

Untill leaving Teton he earned a lively hood by tilling the soil. He was thrifty ty and worked hard.

Mother died Sept., 18, 1924. Father was called on a short term mission to Canada in the fall of 1925. While there he met and married ^{later} Mrs Florrie B. Pateman.

On the 20th of Nov. 1934, he came to Teton on business. Came to our home and had dinner with us. He was feeling fine except for a little cold. He went to Hazells that night, with the intentions of going home the next day. During the night he was seized with severe chilling. Hazel and Leo did what they could for him but he gradually grew worse. On the 23 or 24 they with Henry and Luella called Dr. H. B. Rigby. The Dr. pronounced it flue but not serious. With a few days rest he would be well again, but he gradually grew worse and the Dr. was again called. Pneumonia had developed. This was overcome, but at Thanksgiving he was still confined to his bed. It seemed nothing could be done to stop the progeess of his illness. As soon as one thing was overcome another would develope and on Dec., 4th he had a stroke which affected the left side. He never regained consciousness and passed away December 5th at about five o'clock. in the General Hospital at Rexburg, Idaho. Thus ended a useful and humble career.

Children:

Isabell R. Staker
Henry

George M.

Robert M. died at the age 8.9.

Hazel R. Schofield

Lillie died at the age of 19.

Ethel R. Owens

Vernon M.

Goldie R. Fullmer.