

Elice Mariah Jane White Sheen -

Born March 5 - 1859

Died Dec 28 - 1931 - (one of her sons
birthday)

Written by granddaughter Ellen Swenson
from genealogy records and things I remember about
her and things told me by her children

7

118
Alice Mariah Jane White ^{Green} was born
March 5, 1859, in Boston, Suffolk, Mass.

When she was 15 months old she - with her
older brother Thomas Adolphus, and her
parents Thomas Phillip White and Alice Potter
White - left Boston to come to Utah.

They crossed the plains in Nephi Johnson's
company of 82 Wagons, and arrived in the
Salt Lake Valley Oct 5, 1860.

They settled in Big Cottonwood, at an address
which is now on Walkers Lane.

She was one of eight children - second in
line - and helped with chores and raising 6
brothers and sisters.

Her mother was a kind and caring
person - with high ideals and strong convictions
of the importance of living the gospel, and
these ideals were instilled into the children.

Alice Mariah was a very pretty girl and
popular with everyone. She was fun
loving and high spirited. Of all her boy
friends she chose for her husband the
boy least liked by her mother.

His name was Alvin Washington Green,
also from the Cottonwood area. He was born
Nov. 18, 1854 in South Cottonwood. His father
Alvin General Guelly Green had come across

the plains on one of the companies led by Brigham Young. One of his brothers who was a twin came the first trip with Brigham Young when they blazed the trail. So it is hard to know why grandmother's mother opposed the marriage, and it was a very traumatic time for grandmother. But finally she went against the wishes of her parents and climbed out a window one night and eloped. This was Dec. 27, 1875. It nearly broke her mother's heart.

They settled on property in the foothills near the old mill. There was a grove of scrub oak trees there and a stream which came out of Hugh's canyon. The water dried up in the late summer - so it was necessary for grandfather to dig a cistern to store water for the rest of the year. This was done by digging a large round hole, 15 or 20 feet deep, plastering it to hold water - putting a top on and a pump to draw the water out. This work of course was done by hand just the same as grandmother washed clothes by hand with a wash board and big boiler to heat water. Some times they hauled water from Big Cottonwood creek which ran down the hollow a mile or so away.

In the summer the family spent much time in Big Cottonwood Canyon, as Grandfather built a saw Mill there and cut and hauled lumber for the growing housing.

There five boys and four girls born to them. They were. Alvin Reuben, Alberta May, Ernest Valrus, Thomas Sylvester, Alonzo, Alice Florence, Francis Ira, George Almon and Harriet Gladys.

The mill was located about four miles below Brighton, and brought them a fair living.

Grandfather hauled the lumber out by horse team.

About the year 1892 as he was returning from Salt Lake with \$40⁰⁰, (which was a tidy sum in those days) he stopped in Murray for a drink. A woman waiting on customers saw this money and decided to steal it. She put drops in the drink she served him - and it killed him. My Grandmother was devastated, but because it happened in a Tavern she would not allow charges to be pressed. She didn't want any publicity.

Now she faced the future with 9 children to raise - the oldest 15 years. They tried to keep the mill, but the boys just weren't old enough, so they had to sell it.

She found it very hard from that time

on. The youngest was about 3 years old. She kept the family on the old homestead and raised what few vegetables she could. The older boy helped by gathering dandelions and soap suds roots to add to the food supply. They had a cow and pork for winter milk and meat.

Grandmother suffered many hardships as did many of the early settlers, but she reared all nine of her children to become good members of the community. The oldest boy filled a mission.

In her last years she lived for a time with her daughter Alice Irving in Salt Lake City. Then she went back to the old homestead and was with her youngest son George (whom we called Dord) and his wife, where she suffered a stroke and died, Dec. 28, 1931. She is buried in the Murray City Cemetery.

The above is the history of my grandmother taken from genealogy records and things I remember about my grandmother and what has been told me by her children.

Ellen Alice Green Swenson