

LIFE OF DAVID BULLOCK

by his granddaughter, Afton Bullock

In the little town of Barrhead, Scotland, on a hot September afternoon in 1844, a doctor's buggy drove away from a small Scottish home. The home was of James and Isabelle Dunn Bullock. From the house came the cry of a baby, later named David Bullock.

About this time there were many "Mormon" missionaries, over in the British Isles, carrying word of the new church. It is through these missionaries the James Bullock and family heard of the new religion and were converted to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

When James Bullock announced to his father and other relatives of his coming to the U.S. for his church, his father disowned him and other relatives thought him crazy for leaving his home, family and almost all earthly possessions to come for a religion that they had never heard about.

So, with his wife and three children, James Bullock left his home in Scotland, in 1847, to come to the United States.

Upon arriving in New York City, their funds about gone, James Bullock went in search of work. Working in New York for over a year getting ready to outfit so as to come to the Salt Lake Valley. All along the way he had to find and work for provisions to eat.

As they were nearing Winter Quarters, in the middle of the winter a big blizzard arose. The mother taking most of her clothing off in trying to keep her children from freezing to death, took sick and died. They buried her in a snowbank near Winter Quarters and then went on their way.

So, the father with his three children, coming a little ways then working bearing the hardships of cold and hunger, arrived in Salt Lake and was then chosen by Brigham Young to come south with a band of iron workers.

On November 11, 1851, at 4 P.M. the first pioneers arrived on Coal Creek and founded Cedar City.

It was on the running gear ahead of the pioneer company that David Bullock rode and it was by this act he became the first white boy on the site of Cedar

There were eleven wagons, but the exact number of people is unknown. 35 men and families spent the first summer here. As twelve of the families were from the Scotch Independence Company, their high ideals and sincerity in their religious beliefs is shown by their posterity as splendid citizens, and by the kind of town they built.

As a boy Dave worked hard to help his father earn a living; he herded sheep and helped different men for very small pay. Once he worked for six weeks for a man and his pay was only a cat and a rooster.

Dave made friends easily, even from his early childhood, and he especially made friends with the Indians. They liked him so much that they were always around him and he never had any trouble with them.

As he was in his early manhood he had a severe attack of appendicitis (inflammation of the bowels they called it then). The old doctor, who had hunched over from a neighboring city, looked him over and said, "Dave, if its inflammation you have, I can cure, but if its mortification all the doctors in hell can't save you." As a medicine he split live chickens in half and laid them over him. Dave laid near death's door for many days, but finally recovered to be as strong as ever.

All during his life, Dave never used tobacco and never drank, which we can prove by the sturdy and healthy body he had during his entire life.

As he was well into his twenties he fell in love and married Alice Black, who had come out from England for the same reason as he.

Dave was always interested in exploring. He and his brother Robert, were the first men over Cedar Mountains. He was the first man to go over Cedar Mountains on snowshoes and he lay out in the snow two nights in that high altitude without bed or blanket. Later he and Robert took Levi Jones with them. The three of them claimed the whole of Cedar Mountain, by what they called "Squatter's

rights.' (First there, first serve)

Later, when Utah became a state they bought the land for a dollar an acre.

It was after they discovered this land that they went into the livestock business. They gradually built their business up until they became three of the biggest livestock holders in the country.

Dave, through his exploring, claimed to be the first white man to see Navajo Lake. When the question came up, as to what its name should be, Navajo or Blue Creek, William Berry, of Kanarra, being the only man ahead of him, said that its first name was Navajo. They say it acquired this name due to the fact that it lay on the trail of the Navajo raiders, who made it a practice to camp here on their way to this country to steal horses and mules.

Brother Berry could not confirm a story of a fight between the whites and the Navajos, but was of the opinion that one had taken place in the early days. One of Dave's friends said he could remember when in one winter seven or eight different raids were made.

Four men, David Bullock, August Mackelprang, Martin Chatterly and Samuel Wood, followed one of the first of these bands until they were near enough to learn that it was altogether too powerful a detachment for them to attack.

Later the same winter one of the Nebeker brothers from Rich County was camped in Cedar with a band of high class mules and blooded mares, when the Navajos came in the night and stole the whole band. So Dave with a strong party of whites followed the reds up a ridge between Enoch and here and over into Panguitch Lake country. Near Panguitch they over took the thieves and gave them battle and captured the mules and horses.

Although Dave was a great man to explore and was greatly interested in his business, he was a devout Church member and was always ready to sacrifice for the Church.

He crossed the plains three times, once for freight and twice for emigrants,

supplying free of charge for the later trips, 4 mule teams and outfits complete. On each trip back, he stopped near Winter Quarters trying to find where they had buried his mother, but never succeeded in locating the place.

In the years, 1875-76, he gave up his work and went on a mission to the land of his birth, Scotland, preaching and converting as the missionaries had once done to his family.

Dave was one of the organizers of the Pioneer Business Institution of Ogden City, organized just five years after the close of the Civil War. This became as the Co-op Store, of which he was President of the company. Later this store joined with the Sheep Association and formed the C. S. A. (Cedar Sheep Association) which now stands, and of which Bullock's still own the controlling interest. This section is where the Bullock Drug Store and Modern Style Shop now stands.

He was also one of the big stockholders which made it possible for the opening of the bank. He was vice president for many years.

He was also a member of the City Council and held various other civic positions.

On January 5, 1890, Dave again married, this time to Sara Ann Higbee, and his other wife. She was the daughter of John Mount and Eunice Bladen Higbee was the eldest of their seven children. She was granddaughter of John Summers Sara Ann Voorkees Higbee. John Summers Higbee was captain of the eleventh box of President Young's company of pioneers, and he with 30 others founded Provo, Utah, in March, 1849.

Dave read of his own death three times before he died. One time, near Hi there was a head on collision of a freight train, he was scalped and through the freezing weather conditions as the blood rushed out from the wounds it froze. This was the only thing that saved his life. They immediately rushed him into Salt Lake to the Holy Cross Hospital, where he recovered. He was the only survivor of the train crew and two Mexicans.

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The second time was one winter when the Bullocks had left their cattle on the mountains. Dave being worried went over on snowshoes. When he was delayed longer than usual everyone thought him dead. They thought he had died of starvation because he had not taken enough provisions to last that long. Being unable to get back the way he came because of snow, he took a different route and came from the mountains over by Orderville, instead of down Cedar Canyon.

The third time he had to go to Pioche with a company of men. On the way one of his mules became so lame he couldn't come on with the company. Later he read where the whole company had been killed by the Indians and because he might have been with the company his name was among those on the dead list.

Besides these accidents he was also in another very serious train accident and a very bad car wreck.

He often bore testimony of remarkable deliverances from accidents and sickness that had been given him by God.

Being one of the first men to give his land to the railroad and to make it possible to come into Cedar, and being the first white boy to enter Cedar he is privileged, 71 years from the time he arrived in Cedar City, to ride the train into Cedar and with President Harding and the President of the Union Pacific had the honor of driving in the golden spike, which is now in the Library.

On June 6, 1927, when he was 83 he said, "I am supposed to have issued a challenge to all Utah of my age to compete on the race track and my challenge has seven times been accepted. The origin of this was that several months ago I was introduced to an affable gentleman as the only survivor of that first car to Cedar City. He asked as to my health. I told him that I felt fine, that my health is as good as it ever was in my life. I can sleep and eat and work, my limbs are supple and I haven't an ache or pain, in fact, I said I can outrun a man in Utah my age. He answered that it would be a fine newspaper story and to publish it. He did publish it. My challenge only.

After it was published it gave rise to all sorts of ludicrous comment. One humor tells of a good sister, taking regular track exercise and gradually working her time up to 10 seconds flat.

A venerable pioneer of 83 invited me to come to his town any time I want. He thinks he can out run me. Well--what am I to do! I have never yet backed away from any situation, and there is too much Scotch in me to do it now. I feel so well that if there is a pioneer left in better state of preservation than I, I want to meet him. And so perhaps the challenge should stand only in the interest of fair play, this proviso should be added, The loser shall pay traveling expenses and other expenses both ways---hospital and burial expenses excluded. My insurance will take care of this if I do break my neck in winning."

In September 1926 they had a Bullock Reunion. It was given at the old tabernacle in honor of Dave. His youngest son, Warren, was master of ceremonies, and gave an address of welcome. Invitations had been issued to all relatives and old friends, twenty-five coming from Parowan. After a program was held they went over to the Relief Society Hall, where a banquet was served to over 300 guests. In the evening a dance was given at the S.O.A. Hall. Saturday morning at 9 A.M. the Bullock family reassembled in the Relief Society Hall where a sumptuous breakfast was given and in the afternoon a program and dance was given for all Bullock children. Saturday evening at five a family dinner was served at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R.W. Bullock.

This reunion was the last time Dave saw many of his friends, for on January 8, 1927, he took sick and was only sick ten days before he died. The doctors didn't know what was the cause but thought it might be a kidney infection.

Dave had 11 children by his first wife, of which five are now living and 6 by his second wife, one of which is still living.

The friends that Dave had, will always remember him as a courageous, strong and sturdy pioneer, and some of the men in Cedar City today will always remember him as giving them their start in life.