

**Life Histories of
JOHN NELSON
WHITAKER
(1853-1934)**

And

**SARAH JOSEPHINE
MALLORY
(1860-1904)**

**by Morris D. Whitaker
Based on the Originals by
Clara Almeda Moon
and
Glen F. Harding**

PREFACE

John Nelson Whitaker and Sarah Josephine Mallory were both born in Willard, Utah in the 1850s and married in 1877. They came to Almo in the spring of 1882, with three children, and 13 more were born to them in Almo. Two died of appendicitis (1894 and 1899), and Sarah Josephine and two more children died in the typhoid epidemic of 1904. John Nelson Whitaker, left with 10 children ranging from eight months to seventeen years of age, returned to Willard where he had the support of his extended family. His homestead was located on the banks of the Raft River near the Old Raft River Crossing on the Salt Lake Cutoff and is now part of the Bruce and Kent Durfee ranch.

The history of John Nelson Whitaker presented here is based primarily on the narrative written by Clara Almeda Whitaker Lund Moon, my great-aunt and the tenth child of John Nelson and Sarah Josephine. Her narrative probably was written between 1970-1980 (she passed away in 1986 at the age of 94) and has circulated widely among the Whitaker family. My daughter, Melinda Whitaker Ollerton, retyped Clara Moon's original in 2006, leaving spelling, grammatical and punctuation errors. I have corrected such errors in this version to facilitate reading but have not altered the meaning in any way. I have inserted comments and added information obtained from other sources to make the record more complete. My comments are set off in parentheses and are italicized to identify them from the original history.

The history of Sarah Josephine Mallory is based on that in the *John Jacob Zundel Family Book*, published in 1973 in Ogden, Utah by Glen F. Harding, M.D. She is the granddaughter of John Jacob Zundel and Sarah Forstner, both emigrants from Germany and early converts to the Church, and my great-grandmother. This excellent book provides much of the information upon which I prepared the history of Sarah Josephine Mallory. The *Zundel Book* also presents a short history of John Nelson Whitaker which contains some additional information about his life and one family photograph, which I have incorporated into Sarah's history.

Finally, I have learned more about John Nelson Whitaker's time in Almo, including the location of his homestead, from Janis and Kent Durfee, and Bruce Durfee, long-time residents of Almo. Kent and Bruce are sons of Elbert Durfee, my mother's double first cousins and my second cousins. Elbert bought the farm from a family named Jensen in 1951, and Bruce and Kent took it over in 1974. The Jensen family obtained the farm about 1936. Bruce and Janis took my sister, Deanna Whitaker Cole, and I to the site of the Whitaker homestead on 17 April 2009, pointed out the location of the Whitaker home, the location of the Old Raft River Crossing, the route of the Salt Lake Cutoff, the location and size of John Nelson Whitaker's irrigated fields and other relevant information. We are indebted to them for their hospitality and kindness, and I have included that information in this history. In addition, Deanna has researched land and water right records to facilitate the preparation of maps and associated information. My special thanks to her for her knowledge, enthusiasm and diligent effort.

Morris D. Whitaker
Logan, Utah
May 2009

LIFE HISTORY OF JOHN NELSON WHITAKER

John Nelson Whitaker was born 3 November 1853 at Willard, Utah, Box Elder County, Utah, the son of James Whitaker and Nancy Woodland who crossed the plains with an ox team because of their testimonies of the truthfulness of the Gospel and the faith in the vision of Joseph Smith. (*Note: James Whitaker and Nancy Woodland came to Utah in September 1850 from Council Bluffs, Iowa where Brigham Young had called them to make and repair wagon wheels (James was a wheelwright by trade). They first settled in Ogden and then moved to Willard or North Willow Creek, as it was then known, in 1852. John Nelson was their first child born there on 3 November 1853.*) I know very little of my father's life as a boy. He went to school starting at the age of 12 and had to earn enough money to pay for his own tuition and teacher. He was 12 years old before he went at all and then only through the sixth grade.

When he was 12 years old (*the Zundel Book says he was 17*) he took a yoke of oxen and freighted from Ogden, Utah up into Montana and he had some awful experiences. One night while watching the oxen, the Indians were very bad. He said he was sitting there and became very frightened and had a strange feeling so he said a prayer and just then someone took hold of his arm and whispered to him to be very quiet or he would surely be killed. He was told to go quickly and take the bells off the oxen and take them to camp. He did as the Indian told him. He was an Indian who father had given something to eat a few days before. The men at camp were all on watch the rest of the evening. The next morning some of the men from other camps told them their night herder had been killed and all their cattle driven off and stolen. Father was not very well at that time and an elderly man who was with them said: "say Splinter, if you don't quit using that sa'gum molasses in your coffee it will kill you." He said he stopped and began to feel better and in two weeks he was well.

When my father and mother had two children (*in 1880*), the bears were very bad in Willard they were taking the calves and little pigs. Father and some of the other men decided to try to get rid of the bears. At that time many of the people had high rock walls on their farms and on my Grandfather's place (*James Whitaker was her grandfather*) there were two such rock walls and many thickets, so the men with their guns and dogs went to get the bears. Dad said he and his Uncle John Woodland went together and as they parted the bushes a big silver tinged grizzly stood up in front of Dad. Uncle John couldn't shoot because Dad was in the lead. With one swipe of the paw she took a chunk out of Dads hip and thigh, chewed his arm and hand, picked up the gun and smashed it so Dad didn't even have a chance. Uncle ran for help and Dad didn't dare move for fear she would attack again at any time and would have killed him. Uncle John had only gone a few minutes but to Father it seemed like hours as old silver had two cubs and she would run back to the cubs and then back to Father, back and forth. Finally when the men came the bear ran back to the cubs and some of the men pulled Dad back a little ways and in this manner they soon had him where they could pick him up and get him to safety as some of the other men shot her. Dad said they put about 30 bullets into her before she dropped. They measured her and she stood 8 ft. tall on her hind feet. My father was very ill for quite some time but very grateful to be alive.

Father worked for the railroad and was there when the Golden Spike was driven at Promontory point. When my mother, Sarah Josephine Mallory and father had three children they went to the old Endowment House In Salt Lake City and were sealed for time and all eternity the 9th March 1882. They moved to Raft River, Idaho, near the town of Almo. Father took up a homestead located on the Old Raft River Crossing below Almo, and as the family grew he added more rooms, one by one. *(Note: The Old Raft River Crossing is where Hensley's Salt Lake Cutoff (trail) crosses the Raft River just east of the City of Rocks before it joins up with the California Trail. Kent and Janis Durfee believe the Whitaker homestead is in the middle of their ranch, which they bought about 30 years ago from Elbert Durfee, Kent's father. Janis told me that they tore down an old log house and out buildings when they first bought the place; the house was likely the original Whitaker home.)*



*The Almo LDS Church that John Nelson Whitaker May Have Helped to Build in the Mid-1880s
(Almo first had a branch; the Almo Ward was created in 1887.)*

He freighted from Ogden to Almo and from Kelton to Almo. When the stage was held up and robbed near the City of Rocks of \$80,000 dollars in gold bullion Father was one of the men who helped to capture the three men who had committed the crime. Two were killed and one was taken alive, Bob Grey was his name and he spent the rest of his life the state penitentiary at Boise, Idaho. Father helped to build LDS Church at Almo, Idaho and also the one at Willard, Utah. *(Note: Two LDS churches were built in Almo between the mid-1880s and 1905 when John Nelson left Almo. The first was the Almo Branch Chapel, built about 1885-86, and the second was the brick church built in 1902-03 and located near the site of*

the present chapel. It is not clear from Aunt Clara's history which one he worked on, and he may have worked on both). He helped to pioneer that part of Idaho when there were very few people in that part of Idaho, David Hubbard, and his wife Lucy, and Uncle James Bronson, his wife Susannah Pettengill, my Mother's half-sister, that was the only ones.



*The Almo Ward Chapel Built in 1902-03
John Nelson May Have Worked on this Building
(His Home Was Across the Street)*

Another incident in my father's life was he and his brother James were gathering the cattle and came near the old Raft River crossing below Almo. Our home was

near the river, there had been a cloud burst and the water was up to the first log on the house and rising. Mother had taken the children to the granary which was built up higher than the house on flat rocks but Father didn't know that they were there so he and James forded the swollen river and began to swim the horse to the other side but James' horse was almost drowned when it slipped and fell. Dad saved him and was grateful when they reached the other side to find all of us safe.

We had only lived there about three years when typhoid fever hit the little town and Mother, and my brothers, Johnny age 20, Andy age 12, died with it. *(Note: They had lived in the Almo area for more than 20 years—1882-1904—so the reference to three years is likely to living in the town of Almo, rather than at the homestead. Typhoid fever is caused by the Salmonella Typhi bacterium, which is transmitted in water supplies contaminated by human fecal matter. The symptoms are sustained high fever (104 °), chest congestion which often turns to pneumonia, diarrhea and perforation of the bowels. The mortality rate was as high as 30 percent until antibiotics became available; it is still 1-2 percent. Elbert Durfee in his "History of Almo" (see almoidaho.com) indicated that the typhoid outbreak in Almo was blamed on the large number of sheep that had come into the country and the relatively shallow, hand-dug wells that were contaminated by the sheep. However, the contamination was more likely from humans.)* Mother died 31 October 1904, Johnny the day of Mother's funeral (2 November) and Andy a week later. Father was in bed also with it and he took care of us. His eldest son (James) died of appendicitis a few years before that (16 March 1894) and also a daughter Udalia (Udahlia) died of the same (29 August 1899), they didn't know at the time what it was.

Father was very good to us and I remember him taking us to the square dances with him as he always called for the square dances and he taught all of his children how to dance. He was the Father of 20 children of his own and 4 stepchildren, a fine father to every one of

them. Dad & Mom had 16 children (12) boys (4) girls, they are James Jacob, Sarah Matilda, William Elisha, John Henry, Udalia (*Eudahlia*), Lewis Eugene, Donald Jennings, Elwood Lafayette, Andy(*Andrew*) Sylvester, Clara Albeta (*Almeda*), Ira Bartlett, Ercy Ulysus (*Ulysses*), Adelia Josephine, Tertellian Byron (*Bryan*), Ruben (*Reuben*) Legrand, and Secy (*Secyl or Cecil*) Fenton. When Mom had been dead nine years Dad married Catherine Elizabeth Taylor Ross (*in 1913*) who had four children by her first husband (*Alexander David Ross—1865-1907*): David Alexander, Clyde Leonard, Ruth Elizabeth, and George Alfred. These children were sealed to Dad and his second wife in the temple in Salt Lake City. To this union was born (4) more children Woodrow Nelson, Nancy Catherine, Elva Kate, Ronald Lincoln. Father worked very hard to make a good living for all of us. He died at the age of 81 years in the hospital in Ogden Utah and was buried in the new cemetery in Willard Utah. Death 18 August 1934.

Written by Clara Almeda Whitaker Moon (*about 1970-80*)

Retyped by Melinda Whitaker Ollerton

1 July 2006

Notes and pictures added by Morris D. Whitaker

May 2009

LIFE HISTORY OF SARAH JOSEPHINE MALLORY

Sarah Josephine Mallory was born on 10 August 1860 in Willard, Utah to Emma Maria Zundel Peirce (or Pierce) and Elisha Manuel Mallory. She was the mother of 16 children and died at age 44 from typhoid fever.

Her Parents

Emma's parents were John Jacob Zundel and Sarah Forstner who joined the Church in 1836 in Ohio and emigrated to Utah in 1852. They moved to North Willow Creek (Willard) in 1852 about the same time as James Whitaker and Nancy Woodland. Emma Maria Zundel married Eli Harvey Peirce in 1857 (she was the second wife in a polygamous marriage); he died in 1858 without them having any children. She then married Elisha Mallory, also as the second wife in a polygamous marriage. Sarah Josephine Mallory was the only child from this marriage, which ended in divorce. Emma then married for the third time in 1864. She married Elihu Ulysses Pettingill, again as a second wife in a polygamous marriage, and they had eight children. Elihu Pettingill had married Jane Marsh in 1849 (in Pottawatamie, Iowa) and they had 15 children, so Sarah Josephine Mallory had eight half-brothers and sisters in her mother's third family and another 15 in her step-father's first family. Elihu Pettingill was a member of the First Quorum of Seventy.



*Emma Maria Zundel Peirce (1838-1899)
Mother of Sarah Josephine Mallory
(Picture about 1857 while married to Eli
Peirce who died in 1858)*

Elisha Manuel Mallory came to North Willow Creek in 1851 with the first company of settlers. He was from Mallorytown, Ontario, Canada and his parents were Lemuel Mallory and Sarah (Sally) Tufts. I don't know when he joined the Church but he was a member when he came to Willard in 1851 at age 23 with his wife. The Willard (Utah) Centennial Program indicates: "On the 31st of March in 1851, the first settlers of Willow Creek (Willard) came north from Ogden and camped on the north side of Willow Creek and prepared to make permanent homes here....In all, there were nineteen in the party, eleven adults and eight children....The members of the party were:...Elisha Mallory and his wife Mary. Elisha Mallory was the first to get his house up. His wife gave birth to a little girl, being the first white child to be born in Box Elder County. Her name was Elizabeth Eliza, and she was born in July 1851."

Elisha Mallory erected the first flour mill in Willard during 1851-52 and employed T.W. Brewerton as miller. With a favorable stream of water coming from the canyon (flowing in a northwesterly direction) and with numerous springs along its course, it proved to be a good site for a mill with ample water to turn the wheels of the machinery. He sold the mill to Homer and Omer Call who made significant improvements, including new grinding wheels, which they hauled by ox team from California.

Elisha Mallory took Emma Maria Zundel Peirce as a second wife, on 15 June 1859. They were married for time by Brigham Young in the President's Office in Salt Lake City. He provided her with a good, average home for Willard, which was said to be located near the former site of the Oregon Short Line Railroad Depot. Their only child, Sarah Josephine Mallory was born 10 August 1860 in Willard.

He wanted to take Emma to California when the gold mining movement was on. Fearing she would lose her religious belief, Emma said she would not go. It is also probable that she was concerned that her status as a polygamous wife would be misunderstood in another state. This difference of opinion led to an amicable breakup of their marriage. Elisha was very fair in leaving her with real estate properties and took his first wife and children with him. Emma lived in the home Elisha Mallory left her for a while with her daughter (Sarah



*Hensley's Salt Lake Cutoff, First Crossed in 1848
(John Nelson Whitaker and Sarah Josephine Mallory used this wagon road to go
from Willard to Almo in 1882)*

Josephine), and later sold this home and a block of land for \$600. Elisha M. Mallory in later years sent his daughter Sarah Josephine a vial of gold dust. Sarah thanked him in a letter and hoped to hear from him, but never did. Elisha's father, Lemuel Mallory, also a member, died in Logan, Utah.

When Emma married Elihu Pettingill in 1864, Sarah Josephine was three years old. She was incorporated into the new family where she lived with her mother and stepfather and the children that were born to them. She must have been especially close to her half-sister Susannah Viola Pettingill, who was born in 1865, since she was only five years old at the time. They later lived and died at about the same time in Almo, Idaho.

Her Marriage to John Nelson Whitaker

Sarah Josephine Mallory was married to John Nelson Whitaker on 18 February 1877 when she was 16 years old and he was 23. Their first three children were born in Willard (James Jacob: 7 November 1877; Sarah Matilda: 7 December 1879; and William Elisha: 9 November 1880). They were sealed for time and eternity with their three children at the Old Endowment House in Salt Lake City on 9 March 1882.

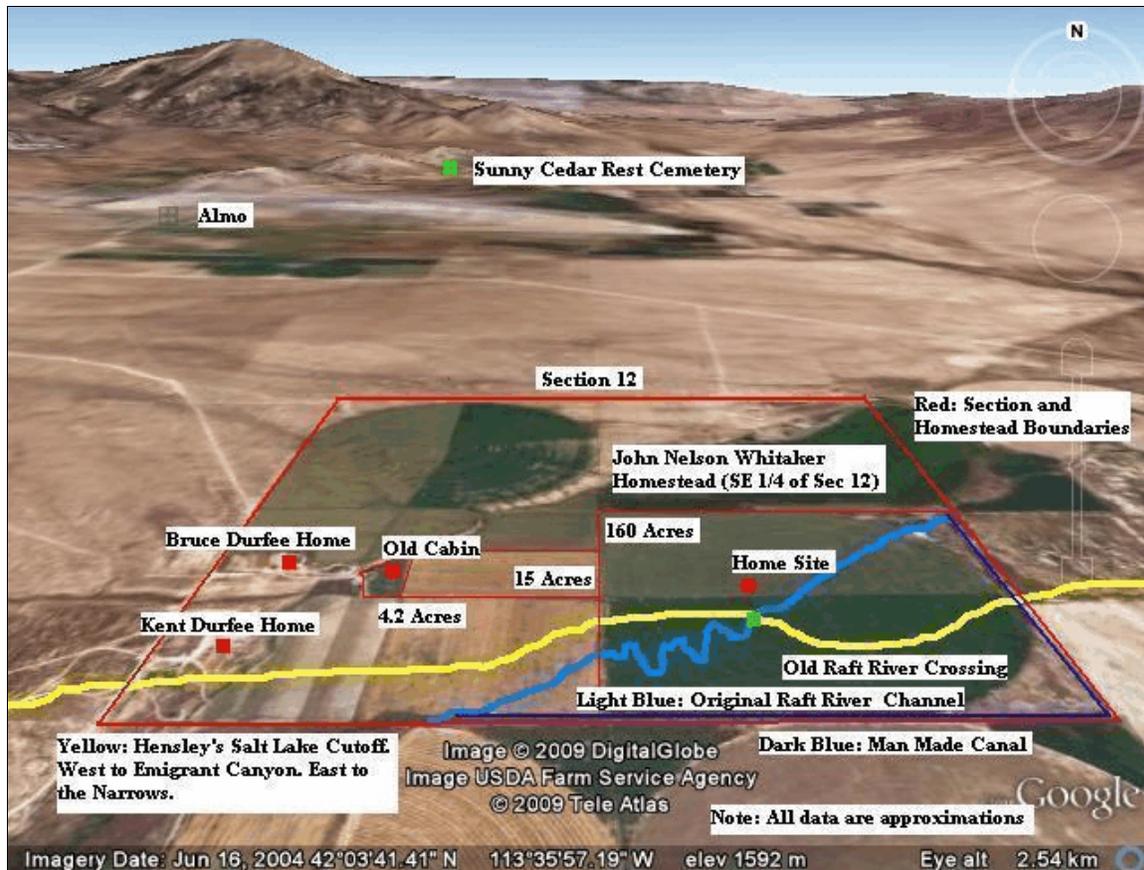
Sometime in the spring of 1882 they moved to a homestead near Almo, Idaho, for one of his water rights from the Raft River for 40 acres was issued on 30 April 1882. It took them five days by wagon to travel the 115 miles from Willard to Almo following the old Hensley's Salt Lake Cutoff wagon road.

In the summer of 1848 Samuel J. Hensley, with 10 wagons, tried to take the Hastings Cutoff to California across the desert west of Salt Lake but got mired down in salty mud and nearly lost their wagons and their lives. Hensley then headed north to a few miles beyond present day Brigham City, where his party turned west and forded the Bear and Malad rivers. He then followed Indian trails from spring to spring around the north end of the Great Salt Lake until he reached the City of Rocks and then continued on the California trail. Several geographic sites were named for Hensley, but due to misspelling of his name are now known by the name of Hansel, e.g. Hansel Valley.



Hensley's Salt Lake Cutoff Looking East from SR 30 , 2.1 Miles South of the Curlew Junction in April 2009 (Pilot Springs is about 1.5 miles east. The wagon ruts are remarkably well preserved after 161 years)

Hensley met up with a wagon train of discharged Mormon Battalion veterans on 27 August 1848 at the Humboldt River (Nevada) and informed them about the new route he had just



Panoramic View of the John Nelson Whitaker Homestead, Now Part of the Durfee Ranch

pioneered. The Mormon Battalion members had been discharged from Army service and were returning from the gold fields to Utah. They followed Hensley's new route and were the first to take a wagon train from the City of Rocks to Salt Lake City on what came to be known as Hensley's Salt Lake Cutoff. Several of the Mormon Battalion kept detailed diaries; among them Addison Pratt, who was an ardent fisherman. He recorded catching trout both in the Raft River at the Narrows and in Clear Creek. It is estimated that more than 25,000 pioneers used this road in 1849 and 1850 and more than a third of those who went to California during the gold rush. (See Will Bagley, *Hensley's Salt Lake Cutoff in Trailing the Pioneers*, edited by Peter H. DeLafosse, Utah State University Press: 1994, Logan, Utah, for more information on the Salt Lake Cutoff.)

Sarah Josephine and John Nelson and their three boys followed the same route pioneered by Hensley 34 years earlier and improved by the Mormons. They camped at the same water holes and pastured their horses and cattle in the same natural pastures near the springs. Their homestead near Almo was relatively easy to get to as the Salt Lake Cutoff went right through the middle of it.

Sarah Josephine and her husband homesteaded near the old Raft River Crossing, south of Almo. Bruce Durfee, who had seen this crossing many times before it was filled in and the river channel moved, told me it was relatively shallow and had a rocky bottom. The Raft

River generally had steep banks with few rocks all along its course and so this was the best crossing site.

Clara Moon indicated that her parents had a log house near the banks of the Raft River, and would add rooms as the family grew. She also describes the house being close to the Old Raft River Crossing (where the Salt Lake Cutoff crossed the Raft River before heading for Emigrant Pass). Bruce Durfee described a frame house which was near the location that Clara describes. It is possible that the old log house was replaced by a frame house sometime after John Nelson Whitaker left Almo. Elbert Durfee, in his "History of Almo," indicates that:

A Whitaker family built a cabin on Raft River just under the bluff on section 12 of T. 16S R. 24E BM. This land now owned by Bruce and Kent Durfee.

Bruce Durfee also pointed out where an old cabin used to sit just under the bluff below their present home site. It may be that the Whitakers had a small cabin when they first arrived and then moved to a larger home at the site near the Old Raft River Crossing.

On 23 October 1889 after a cash payment to the federal government, he received the patent (title) for the same 40-acre parcel of land to which he had received a water right in April 1882 (see copy of this certificate at the end of this history). The water right for this parcel is now in the name of Elbert Durfee and the legal description shows it to be part of the Bruce and Kent Durfee farm. There are three other water rights for three other 40-acre parcels in the SE1/4 of Section 12 that were originally in the name of John Whitaker; these water rights and land also are now in the name of Elbert Durfee and are part of the Bruce and Kent Durfee farm. John Nelson Whitaker also had water rights for another 15-acre parcel and for a 4.2-acre parcel for a total 179.2 acres in his homestead (these small parcels also now belong to the Durfee brothers). According to Bruce Durfee, he likely irrigated only about 70-80 acres, all of which had to be cleared of the native sage brush. The soil was deep, fertile and free of rocks. The rest (probably on the south side of Raft River) was used to raise livestock.

Great-grandmother lived a challenging life with many hardships compared to our lives of ease. Their fourth child, John Henry, was born in Almo on 9 February 1883. She and John Nelson had 12 more children in the next 20 years, all born in Almo. Tragedy struck the family when James Jacob, their eldest son, died from appendicitis on 16 March 1894. He was laid to rest in the Sunny Cedar Rest Cemetery with a beautiful, grey-white marble tombstone with this epitaph, which portrays the deep sorrow felt by his parents and brothers and sisters:

*A precious one from us has gone
A voice we loved is stilled
A place is vacant in our home
Which never can be filled.*

The family must have felt great loss when James died, for the marble marker with its epitaph was a very expensive expression of their mourning, given their difficult financial situation.



JOHN NELSON and SARAH JOSEPHINE MALLORY WHITAKER FAMILY
front row: Andrew S. (smallest child standing), Sarah J. Mallory Whitaker (holding Clara A.), Elwood L., John N. Whitaker and Don Jennings. middle row: Lewis E., Eudahlia (hand on Elwood L.) and John Henry (furthest right)
back row: (three tallest); James Jacob, Sarah M. and William Elisha.

Clara Almeda, on Sarah's lap, was born 21 September 1892, and James died on 16 March 1894

Grandfather William Elisha is on the back row, far right and is about 13

Picture taken about 1893

Every time I stand at the grave site and read this anew, it still brings a deep feeling of melancholy and sense of awe at the challenges these good people faced. Tragedy struck again in 29 August 1899 when Eudahlia passed away at age 15; she apparently also died of appendicitis. Family size was five when they arrived in Almo in 1882, had grown to 10 by 1889, 13 by 1894, 14 by 1900 (two had died) and 16 in 1904, before a typhoid epidemic took three more.

To feed her large and growing family, Sarah would bake as many as 18-20 loaves of bread at a time. She canned the vegetables and fruit from her garden and orchards. Sausage and other



John Nelson Whitaker about Age
40
(1853-1934)

varieties of meat were cooked in a wash boiler for four or five hours, then bottled. She also made all the clothes and soap for her family. Her mother (Emma Maria Zundel Peirce Mallory Pettingill) on her visits would remark (referring to her daughter's wonderful housekeeping): "I love to take a nap because your house is as clean and cool as a cucumber." (*This is a remarkable statement and a testimony to Sarah Josephine Mallory's capacity, cleanliness and work ethic.*) In addition to her childbearing and rearing, Sarah



Sarah Josephine Mallory
Whitaker about Age 33
(1860-1904)

Josephine was active in the Church. She would drive a team and wagon four and one-half mile north to Almo to attend her

LDS Relief Society meetings and was one of the first to volunteer to help with the socials.

Her husband was well liked and popular throughout the Raft River Valley as a caller for square dances. He was scrupulously honest as the following story illustrates. Sarah Josephine's history in the John Jacob Zundel Family Book recounts that he found a billfold with \$3,000 in it. Even though their need for money was great and \$3,000 was a small fortune, they immediately told the storekeeper (apparently at the store where the money had been found) and others where the money could be claimed. A drummer (salesman) had lost the wallet and gave a \$150 reward for its safe return. (It is likely that this occurred in Willard, before they left for Almo.)

About 1903, the family moved from their homestead to a log house in Almo across from the church, where it was easier for the children to attend school. Then, in 1904, a typhoid fever epidemic swept the small community. Several members of her family, including her husband and herself, became ill. She passed away on 31 October 1904; her son John Henry, age 21,

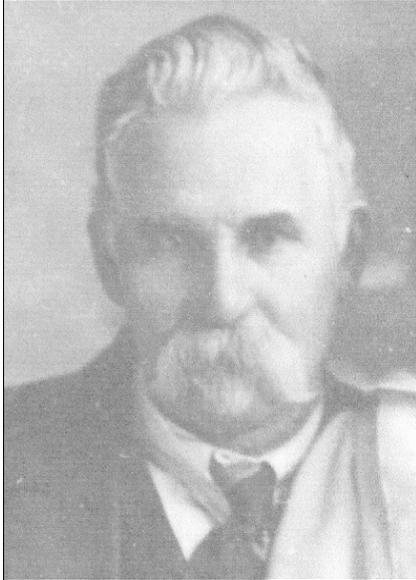


John Nelson Whitaker's Second Home in Almo
(About 1903-1905—picture 2008)

died on 2 November, the day of her funeral; and Andy, age 13, died on 24 November. John Nelson was sick in bed, as were some of the other children. Her half-sister, Susannah Pettingill Bronson, preceded her in death on 18 September 1904; she also died from typhoid

fever. All were buried in the Sunny Cedar Rest Cemetery, along with James and Eudahlia, except for John Henry who died in Brigham City, Utah and was buried in Willard, Utah (he apparently had been taken there for better medical care).

When his wife passed away John Nelson Whitaker was left with a family of 12 children at home (Sarah had married in 1898 and William Elisha, our grandfather, married Emily Palmer in 1903). He had to make the funeral arrangements for two more of his children in the next two weeks, and then take care of the remaining 10 by himself, ranging in age from 19 years old (Lewis Eugene) to eight months (Secy Fenton).



John Nelson in His Older Age



*Elizabeth Catherine Taylor Ross
(Second wife of John Nelson Whitaker)*

John Nelson left Almo after his wife died and returned to Willard, Utah (probably in 1905) where he had the support of both his and his deceased wife's extended families, and so his children could attend the better schools in Willard and Brigham City. He married Elizabeth Taylor Ross nine years after his first wife's death as recounted in his history above. He was 60 and she was 37 when they married.

I have only the greatest respect and admiration for these noble forebears. I marvel at the work ethic and endurance of Sarah Josephine Mallory, who bore her husband 16 children in 28 years and died at an early age from pestilence. It is a testimony to her cleanliness and skill that none of her children died in infancy; indeed the four who died succumbed as teenagers or young adults to forces far beyond her control. She left us a great legacy of disciplined commitment to her family and the gospel. John Nelson and Sarah Josephine were religious and attended to church duties. This is evidenced by their going to the Endowment House to be sealed in 1882 and by her driving the four and one-half miles to Almo to attend Relief Society. It is evidenced by John Nelson working on the churches in Almo and Willard and by his being sealed to his second wife, Elizabeth Taylor Ross, and having her four children (by her first marriage) sealed to him when he was over 60 years old. Finally, many of John and Josephine's children, including our grandfather, William Elisha Whitaker, also were married in the temple as were my parents, following the example of their forebears.

Not much is known about the details of the lives of John Nelson Whitaker and Sarah Josephine Mallory. But enough is known about them that we can look back with great respect and admiration for their exemplary lives of hard work, faith and commitment to gospel principles. If we can do as well as they did, all will be well for our posterity.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

CERTIFICATE

No. 2004
Territory

Whereas John N. Whitaker of Blaine County, Idaho

has deposited in the General Land Office of the United States a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at Harley, Idaho Territory
John N. Whitaker

whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said

according to the provisions of the

Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," and the acts supplemental thereto, for the North West quarter of the South East quarter of Section twelve in Township sixteen South of Range twenty-four East of Boise Meridian in Idaho Territory containing forty acres.

according to the Official Plat of the Survey of the said Lands, returned to the General Land Office by the Surveyor General, which said Tract has been purchased by the said John N. Whitaker

Now know ye, That the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the several Acts of Congress in such case made and provided, have given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant unto the said John N. Whitaker

and to his heirs, the said Tract above described: To have and to hold the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances, of whatsoever nature, thereto belonging, unto the said John N. Whitaker

and to his heirs and assigns forever; subject to any vested and accrued water rights for mining, agricultural, manufacturing, or other purposes, and rights to ditches and reservoirs used in connection with such water rights as may be recognized and acknowledged by the local customs, laws, and decisions of courts, and also subject to the right of the proprietors of a vein or lode to extract and remove his ore therefrom, should the same be found to penetrate or intersect the premises hereby granted, as provided by law.

CERTIFIED Testimony whereof J. Benjamin Harrison
to be a true copy of a document on the United States Stationer, have caused these letters to be made Patent, and
file in the Idaho State Office the Seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

APR 20 2009 Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, the Twenty third
day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand
eight hundred and eighty nine, and of the Independence of the
United States the one hundred and fourteenth

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

By the President: Benjamin Harrison

Edwin Macfarland Ash, Secretary

J. M. Townsend, Recorder of the General Land Office

Copy of the Certificate for the NW1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 12, Purchased from the U.S. by John Nelson Whitaker on 23 October 1889 (40 acres). Note the document is executed by Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States.