

Abraham Taylor Hoagland
July 20, 1848

By Phyllis Pettingill Tracy

Father- Abraham Lucas , Born in New Jersey, 1797-1872. Died in Salt Lake City, Utah.
Mother- Agnes Taylor Hoagland Schwartz, Born Oct 3, 1819 in Westmoreland, England, She being John Taylor's sister. She was converted to the Church in Canada at the same time as her brother John and her husband wouldn't have any part of it so she was divorced and came to Utah with her brother John. There she met and married Abraham Hoagland.

Abraham Taylor Hoagland was my great grandfather. I haven't been able to find anything about his childhood. He was an old man with dementia when I knew him. The following is information given me by my Grandmother.

He was called Abe and he met his wife Ellen Dick when she was sixteen and they were married one year later in the Endowment House, 22 Nov 1852.

He went to work for his half brother John Rich herding cattle in Skull Valley. He owned 300 head of cattle, a large band of horses, and a huge barn. Grandfather said a young Spaniard had been hired to break the horses and there wasn't anything he couldn't ride.

The young man wanted to learn English so Abe said he'd teach him if he would teach him how to braid rawhide ropes, quirts, bridles, and etc. which he did.

Their first child was my Grandmother, Agnes, born June 20, 1873. They were living in St. John. Abram was born 10 Dec 1874. He had something wrong with his heart. He needed a lot of care. His father made him a lasso rope and he could rope a rooster around the neck as quickly as he threw it.

John was the second son born 23 May 1876 followed by Edward Ray April 21, 1878.

When John was two years old, one Saturday he had the croup and by Sunday evening he was dead.

Abe's mother wanted them to come back to Salt Lake where little Abram would be near a Doctor for his heart so they moved back. His mother was living in the Gardo House keeping house for her brother John Taylor.

The doctors couldn't help Abie, as they called him and when he was four years old he died. After his death they found a rooster roped around the neck and tied to a wagon wheel.

One day before Abie died, his Mother was bathing the baby Ray and curling his hair around her finger and Abie looked at the baby and said, "You sweet little darling, you look just like Johnny and pretty soon you're going to go to him and so am I." He looked at his Mother who was in tears and said, "You won't have any little boys then." Noticing his

picture on the wall he said, "You'll have Abie on the wall." After his death, Ellen took the baby Ray and went back to Saint John for a visit and while there the baby died.

Joseph was born next and then Samuel. When Samuel was seven months old he died of pneumonia.

Can you imagine what it would be like to loose that many children?

Abe and Edward, his brother, had heard about land in Idaho that could be had so they made a trip to look it over and decided that would be a good place to go. Each had \$1000 after their father's death, which they used to buy wagons, teams and supplies.

Edward left before Abe going as far as Promitory. He took some of their furniture with him. When Abe didn't arrive he went on to Oakley, Idaho., then back to Almo. Ellen said he strung their furniture from Promitory to Oakley and back to Almo. They never did get it gathered up.

Abe hitched up a fine team of horses to their covered wagon and Ellen drove a wagon with the mules. They headed west with their two remaining children, Agnes (10) and Joseph (3), all they had left of 6 children. They took provisions of food and bedding to last until they arrived at their destination in June 1883. When crossing Raft River, which was quite a stream then, the wagon tipped over and Agnes, who was holding Joseph, grabbed ahold of the bows as they went over and there they hung unharmed.

Abe hurriedly built a one room log dwelling to be shared by both families. Abe's family slept in a wagon box strapped to a pole fence three feet from the ground. Ed's family (five children, his wife and himself) slept on the ground. They cooked and ate in the log house.

Abe built two log houses, fenced 160 acres of ground with a pole fence. Ed taught school and extracted teeth when needed as he had brought dental tools with him. He arrived in the Big Cove in 1882 and I'm not sure when he left

That fall Abe had to go back to get supplies. They were almost barefoot. When he gathered the supplies they needed and arrived as far as Bear River he found the bridge had been washed away and he had to stay there until Spring.

Ellen and the children were alone and a blizzard came up that lasted for nine days. They couldn't get out the door so Ellen let the top shash down on the window and ten year old Agnes crawled along the eaves to milk and feed the cows. She had never milked before and one heifer was hard to milk and her bag spoiled. She had to dig down through the snow to find hay and sometimes all she could feed them was turnips and cabbage. The cows were without water for three days until their neighbors, the Grahams came and dug a tunnel into the house and barn and let them all out.

In order to save fuel they stayed in bed to keep warm and Ellen read the Book of Mormon to Agnes and little Joe, her children. Agnes was able to chop enough wood to cook with but not enough to keep the fire going all the time. She had two pigs she had to feed also.

They needed to churn the cream Agnes had from the milking and the churn was at Ed's. So they all went out to get the churn. While they were gone the two big fat pigs rooted the door to the house open and went in. They tipped over the cream and ate what they wanted and went about tipping everything they could over.

When they returned, they were laying on their bed with their heads on the pillows chewing the feathers and straw out of the mattresses. They had ripped all the lace off the pillowcases. What a mess!

Agnes went to school for six years in Almo. Then her Grandmother took her to Logan to BYU Academy. When she returned home, her parents had moved to Elba, so she gathered the milk cows up with her horse and trailed them to Elba. She was very unhappy about that move.

Note: Grandmother Agnes lived with us the last few years of her life. I felt we owed her as she had cared for Claine and I. These are all the events she told me as I wrote them down.

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