
The history of
Grandfather David Samuel Tracy (Sam)
By granddaughter Lucille (Tracy) King
Told to me by my father Oscar T. Tracy and Grandmother Rebecca Harriet Tracy.

Grandfather David Samuel Tracy was born 15 Aug. 1860, at Ogden Weber Co. Utah. The son of Silas Horace Tracy and Fanny Marilla Garner. (Second wife by plural marriage). Great grandfather Tracy died in 1881 at Ogden, Utah but not until after his wife Fanny m Garner had left and taken with her all her children to Park Valley, Utah. Her family consisted of seven sons and one daughter, my grandfather was the eldest son. He being a young man and with very little chance for education, what education he did have was at Marriott now known as Ogden’s 12th Street. While living in Ogden he was baptized the 10 May 1885, and he also received the Aaronic Priesthood and on to the office of Priest.

When grandfather was 21 he went to work for Abe Chadwick taking care of cattle and horses, from daylight to dark for $1.00 a day. At one time when grandfather took the cattle to the desert, there was a terrible cold blizzard which came and froze some of the cattle, some while still standing on their feet.

Grandfather became acquainted with Hyrum Yates who was the son of my grandmother’s step-father. While grandfather was staying with Mr. Yates, he dreamed of saving the life of a young girl while in the lake swimming. A few days later he saw the picture of the girl in his dream, among some pictures Mr. Yates had, learning that it was the daughter of his father’s second wife. Grandfather first met grandmother at Lake Point Utah, while visiting there. They didn't see much of one another. Grandfather did get up enough courage to ask grandmother to go for a buggy ride, which was the only time they were alone till after their marriage, which took place in Lake Point 25 Dec. 1883 by Bishop William F. Moss.

On Dec. 30 1883 grandfather and grandmother (Rebecca Harriet Taylor) left Lake Point in a covered wagon, with all his and her possessions packed in an old trunk about the size of a bushel apple box. They took several days to travel to Park Valley, where they lived with Hyrum Yates and family, until May 1884.

While in Park Valley grandfather built a log cabin, which had no door in the door way and no glass in the windows and dirt floor, also a dirt roof. They table two feet square, a bed, and a sawed off tree stump they used for a chair. A short time later grandfather bought second hand for $10.00 a table, small cupboard, two chairs, 1 large mirror, a wash tub and board, three flat irons.
Tracy, David Samuel

In September 1884 they traded their cabin for a wagon, they loaded all they had even the little white pig, and started over the mountain, where his brother Benjamin said the grass was greener. They found a nice spot on a Bench of George Creek there they built a log cabin. This time it had a door and windows, but still a dirt roof.

On Oct. the 20 1884 grandmother moved in with her 2 week baby girl, born Oct. 6 1884 named Fanny Elizabeth. All that winter two of grandfather’s brothers lived with them Benjamin and Lonzo. That fall grandmother killed their white pig by giving it sweet milk after Ben had feed it sour milk.

On 5 April 1886 a boy was born, grandmother had a bedroom made by tacking the wagon cover to the ridge poles. Their son was named David Edward.

In 1887 my grandmothers mother, asked grandfather to come and harvest her potatoes and get some wood, he traveled about 200 miles by team only to find that the potatoes were in and wood was being hauled, as grandmothers brother Emer, had come home from a little run away experience. Grandfather stayed there that winter working in the canyon, and at Garfield in the summer. On Apr 8 1888 a girl was born at Lake Point, Utah, they named her Mary Lavina (she died Aug. 17 1891 of scarlet fever).

Before leaving Yost in 1887 grandfather bought another ranch, now know as the D. C. Loveland's ranch, about 160 acres. The place consisted of a house a corral and a shed with a stack of hay. The purchase price was one team of small horses. Six months later his brother Lon sold the place for $300.00 dollars leaving the money for grandfather at an Ogden bank. This same piece of property is now worth about $35.00 an acre.

With this $300.00 grandfather received, another room was built on the south side of the house and a window made in the west of the big room.

On April 18, 1890 Andrew was born. (He died of a saw mill accident the 24 of Aug. 1920.)

In 1890 grandfather was put in Postmaster, the post office had to be put in the home, which made them rather crowded. He was released in 1896, but re-appointed in 1915.

Grandfather and grandmother built up a very nice farm and a nice little herd of cattle and horses, they helped build a meeting house and a school. Also grandfather served as Justice of the Peace and performed some marriages. They were very true to the L.D.S faith and grandfather enjoyed his work, he also managed many of their dances.
Tracy, D.S

On Jan. 17 1892 Rosetta was born. On Mar.5, 1896 Lydia Jane was born, Grandfather was the doctor and took care of grandmother and baby. There was a terrible blizzard that day.

Grandfather and grandmother took their children and went to Logan and had them sealed on 13 Sept 1893.

The fall of 1900 grandfather and Ed Yates cut down trees and sawed them and built a three-room house. This one had shingled roof. Three months from the time they cut the first log they were living in it. During the next few years grandfather, together with Hyrum Yates and Charles Randel, built several homes. Grandfather was known as the head carpenter of the community. And grandmother was known as having the best garden.

Grandfather loved to play ball, and did whenever he had the chance.

May 19, 1896 Evelyn was born, late spring not a green thing to be seen.

May 23, 1898 Edgar Anthon was born. June 5, 1900 Lily was born. William Silas was born 25 July 1902, he was the first to be born in the new home.

July 26, 1903 grandfather was chosen custodian and dance manager of the meeting-house, as the ward was then organized and named Yost. Before this time it was known as George Creek.

In the spring of April 21, 1905 Nelly Rebecca was born (she died of spinal meningitis on 30 July 1905).

November 18, 1906 Charles Weldon was born, one of the coldest falls ever known. Grandfather and Ed had to get out and borrow a stove to keep the children warm. Uncle Charlie died of heart trouble 24 Aug 1942.

March 4, 1909 my father was born, Oscar Taft Tracy, the day President Taft took office.

Ed Yates lived with grandfather and grandmother for most of his early life, until he was married.

In 1915 grandfather and Uncle Dave and Andrew, took over the store and called it the D.S. Tracy & Sons Mercantile Co. This did not turn out too successful, they took it over when everything was high, then things took a drop so they had quite a loss. Also there was too much credit. When the older boys married and moved away that left grandfather with the younger boys to run the store, it was a hard task. Grandfather sold the store to Morris Smith (Evelyn’s husband) in the spring of 1926.
Tracy. D.S.

The years from 1930 until 1935 his health was failing, they found out he had sugar diabetes. Grandfather dieted for a while but continued to fail until Feb. 11, 1935 when he died.

I have been told the only bad habit grandfather had was he had the cigarette habit. And he smoked up until the time of his death, after he became unconscious he would go through the motions of rolling a cigarette.

Grandfather was great for entertaining, none who needed a place to stay would go without if he knew about it. They were always welcome even if he had to give up his bed, in which several occasions he did. Grandfather was well liked by everyone who knew him.