



McCaslin Frost Records

Documents from Bert Rawlins scanned July 7, 2007

MCCASLIN FROST

Isabella

McCaslin Frost was the son of James and ~~Elizabeth~~ Van Pyke Frost. He was born Dec. 10, 1685 in Richland, Rockingham County, North Carolina. He was the fourth child in a family of 9 children - 7 boys and 2 girls. Jonas, John, Samuel married Nancy Childers, James, Ezekiel, Nickles, McCaslin, Rachel who married Roden Britt, and Sarah.

Little is known of the early life of McCaslin Frost. He was born just a few years after the Revolutionary War, and most of his life was spent under pioneer conditions in the five states of the union where he resided--North Carolina, Tennessee, Iowa, Illinois and Utah.

McCaslin was medium, tall, and slender, blue eyed and light complected. He was humorous, kind and sympathetic and of a jovial disposition. Judging from the childhood experiences related to his grandchildren when they were small, McCaslin's father must have owned some negro slaves. The negro slaves idealized McCaslin and called him "Massa", and went to him with their troubles, sure of sympathy and understanding. But he couldn't always resist the opportunity of playing some harmless prank on them when the occasion presented its self and was amused at some of the ridiculous situations he found them in.

The Frosts belonged to the Methodist Church, and according to tradition, McCaslin's father was of English descent and his wife was Dutch. The family was all musical and sang many old folk songs, some of which are known to have been old English Folk songs. McCaslin's father made a violin and promised it to the first one of his boys who learned to play it. McCaslin won the violin, and many years later he gave it to one of his grandsons, who played it at many pioneer dances and entertainments after he came to Utah. All the family could sing, dance and play. McCaslin's oldest son, Samuel B. Frost could "fiddle", step dance and sing, all at the same time and still not be short of breath.

In 1809, when 23 years old, McCaslin Frost was married to Penina Smith. She was the daughter of John and Margaret Brown Smith and was born about Feb. 1st, 1794 in Wayne County, North Carolina. There were 6 children in the Smith family. Three girls and 3 boys. Penina was the fourth child, the other children were Nancy, Stephen, Jesse, and Fereba who married Mr. Clapp, a baby who died at birth at which time the mother died also. After the death of her mother, Penina made her home with an Aunt, and when the Aunt died Penina made her home with James Frost, and his wife ~~Elizabeth~~ ^{Isabella}, who were probably old friends of her parents. She remained in the Frost home until she was about sixteen years old, when she was married to their son McCaslin.

Penina and McCaslin Frost make their home in Knox Country, Tennessee, near Knoxville, the main city in the eastern part of the state. This is a mountainous region, and had been settled only a short time when they were married. They lived on a river or possibly a creek at the foot of the hill below their house there was a wonderful cold spring, they built a room over this spring and used it, not only for drinking water.

Grandson, John Bright's diary also gives the itinerary of his trip from Knoxville to join the Saints, his voyage up the Mississippi River in an old boat from Tennessee to Illinois.

In Hancock, Illinois on Aug. 7, 1834 when 24 years of age, Samuel B. Frost was married to Rebecca Foreman, and ten years later her husband was called on a mission to the state of Kentucky, being appointed in May 1844. He also did missionary work in Jefferson County, Iowa 1842.

He was ordained an Elder in Nauvoo, Illinois on November 20, 1844.

McCaslin's other son James William died in Oct. 1834, when he was a lad of fourteen years and five years before his death, a baby sister Mary Ann had died when she was two years old. Isabelle was married about 1835 to Wiley Jones also a native of Tennessee. Nancy was married to Archabald Jerr of Knoxville May 1833. Fereba was married in Fairfield, Iowa to William Harrison Barger about 1837. He was a native of Indiana. After his death by drowning July 23, 1858 Fereba married Rev. John E. Beatty at Sidney, Iowa, Feb. 8th 1862.

After becoming interested in Mormonism, McCaslin was eager to join the people of his faith. But it isn't known just when he and his family left their home in Knox Co. and began their journey to Iowa. They went first to Memphis where McCaslin worked for a short time before beginning their voyage to Iowa and Illinois. While in Jefferson Co. Iowa McCaslin and his wife Penina Frost joined the L.D.S. Church and were baptized by their son Samuel B. Frost. They had waited to join the church until their son could perform the ceremony in the winter of 1840 or 1841. He also baptized other members of his family. He went to Bear Creek Branch, Illinois during the winter and baptized his sister Martha, and several others in February, 1841 in Bear Creek. The stream was frozen over

and they had to cut a hole in the ice before the baptisms could be performed.

Martha was the sixth child of McCaslin and was married in Jefferson Co., Iowa in 1840. She was living at the home of her sister Fereba F. Barger and her parents who were living in Indian territory left their ten year old daughter Margaret at home with a big dog to protect her while they attended the wedding supper at Ferebas.

McCaslin Frost was also a resident of Hancock Co., Illinois and both he and his wife Penina were endowed at the Nauvoo Temple on Jan. 5th, 1846. His wife Penina and daughter Martha were members of the Relief Society when it was first organized that year, 1842.

At the time of the Martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph and Hyrum Smith, the Patriarch, on June 27, 1844, the Frost family was living about five miles from Carthage jail, and when the word reached the people of the ruthless murder of their beloved Prophet and his brother, they could hardly believe it and sent messengers to investigate.

It was a crushing blow to the Saints, and almost more than they could endure. But they listened to those in authority, although they could have called out the Nauvoo Legion to avenge the deaths of their leaders, they allowed their enemies to go in peace, and waited for the law to punish the assassins. The Frosts could see from the doorway of their home, the smoke from other Mormon villages which were being burned by mobs. McCaslin moved his family from this home soon after this time.

Of the six of the McCaslin's children who grew to adulthood all were married and five of them came west and made their homes sometime during the westward migration. Four joined the L.D.S. Church and came to Utah. Later during the '60s Aunt Isabelle F. Jones came to Idaho and settled for a short time in Lost River but moved later to California and settled there and she died there.

Mother Frost was very sick for some time. She died Sept. 8th, 1869 in Richmond. They were living with their youngest daughter Margaret and family. The Father still lived with them till he died in May 12, 1874. He was sick about two weeks. McCaslin made violins. Before he died he lost his hearing but some one would tune his violin and he could play the old tunes he knew. Both Grandfather and Grandmother had their patriarchal blessings in Alpine, Utah, 16 March 1857 by Elmer Harris.

McCaslin being a strong Methodist hated to break the Sabbath but he shot and killed a big turkey and they had it the next day for the wedding when Martha McKinney, or Patsy as she was called, was married to Harmon Okes in the spring of 1840.

Alpine City, March 16/57

A Blessing by Elmer Harris, Patriarch upon the head of McCaslin Frost, son of James and Isabelle Frost, born December 11th, 1786 in Rockingham County, North Carolina.

Brother McCaslin I lay my hands upon your head in the name of Jesus of Nazareth and place upon you a father's blessing. Thou art of the seed of Abraham and came down through the lineage of Ephraim therefore thou art a legal heir to the priesthood which has come down through the lineage of the fathers even unto thee. Thou art also entitled to the good things of the Earth and the fruits thereof. Thy posterity shall become numerous and thou shalt live to see thy children's children. Thou shalt have seen many days of toil and affliction but thy evil days are drawing to a close and thy latter days shall be better than thy former. Thy days shall be lengthened out until thou art satisfied with life. The power of the highest shall rest upon you to comfort and console you in your declining years and the desires of thy heart shall be given you. Rejoice therefore in your God for he is nigh unto all who seek him dilligently. Fear not but keep the commandments of God and all these blessings shall be made sure unto you together with all former blessings and by the authority of the Holy Priesthood I seal this a father's blessings upon thy head and in the name of Jesus Christ. I seal you up unto eternal lives, even so, Amen.

Harvey McGalyard Rawlins

Harvey McGalyard Rawlins second son and fifth child of James and Jane Sharp Rawlins was born at Apple-creek, Green Co. Ill. Feb. 14, 1825, where he lived until three years of age. They then moved to Adam's Co., Ill. which place was their home for the next fourteen years.

In the spring of 1842, the father, James Rawlins, traded farms with a man named Richard Wilton, thus making it necessary for the family to again move, this time to Bair Crick, Hancock Co., Ill. where they lived for four years. It was while here at Bair Crick that Harvey M. was baptized in the church in the early part of June 1844.

He was at the jail the morning after the Prophet Joseph and brother Hyrum was killed. He suffered with the rest of the Saints in persecutions by the Mob and burning of homes. In 1846 he left his home and went to Council Bluffs. That fall in early December he, together with his brother Joseph S. and wife went to Mish-mobatny, a place about sixty miles down the river from Council Bluffs and there on Dec. 3, 1846 Harvey M. was married to Margaret Elzira Frost, youngest daughter of McCaslin Frost and Penina Smith. Here the men found work splitting rails for a man named Jones. About the last of December they moved to a place called Honey Creek, where on New Years Day they were fortunate in killing two wild turkeys for their dinner. They were also able to gather plenty of wild honey for their winter use.

They endured hardships with the rest of the Saints as well as trouble with the Indians. Harvey M. related one incident when he and his brother Joseph S. went hunting up the river, the Indians attacked them, took away their horses, Harvey's overcoat and some other things, but the men were unharmed. The men took turns herding their cattle across the river. About this time William Barger, Margaret E's brother-in-law, went to the Battallion, so Harvey M. and wife moved the sister, Fereba Frost Barger to a home they built near theirs and supported her while they lived there. The men built a school house and had a school during the winter of 1847.

On the morning of April 30, 1848 a baby girl, Margaret Elzira, came to gladden the home of Harvey M. and wife and when she was only two weeks old they started their journey to the Rocky Mountains, with two yoke of cattle, three of which were wild. The first start was not without its dangers as the cattle became frightened, ran over a stump, almost throwing the mother and babe from the wagon. The father had a strong rope on the leaders' horns which aided him in controlling them so that they were able to make their way as far as the Missouri River that first day. Here they were compelled to wait several days until the company was fully made up and all were taken safely across. During this time Mary Frost, wife of Joseph S. Rawlins was taken very sick and it looked as if she could not recover, so Margaret nursed both babies, her sister-in-law or cousin and her own. But she recovered a few days after they got started on their journey, and was soon able to take care of her own baby.

They began their journey with the company organized with James Blake, captain of 100, Barney Adams, captain of 50, and Andrew Cunningham, captain of 10. However there was so much dissatisfaction that the company was divided after a few days in three, Franklin Richards captain of No. 1, Barney Adams captain of 2, and Andrew Cunningham captain of 3, Andrew Cunningham's company being the one our ancestors travelled in. They travelled so much faster that in a few days they passed the 1st and 2nd Companies and arrived first in the valley, reaching Salt Lake City October 12, 1848 and stayed in the Fort that night.

The next morning, Father James Rawlins, Harvey M., Joseph S. Rawlins and Andrew Cunningham and families drove out to Little Cottonwood where they camped for a while. They went from there over into Big Cottonwood where Father James Rawlins built a house, Joseph S. a dugout and Andrew Cunningham went back to Salt Lake City. Harvey M. went down on the Jordan River to help his brother-in-law George Langley with the cattle until the herd broke up, then come back and lived with Joseph S. while the men worked on a dugout for him. They moved into their new home on New Years day which was sure a day of rejoicing for them as it was their first home of their own. They lived at Big Cottonwood for four years.

In the spring of 1850 George Langley died, thus leaving Margaret E's sister Martha a widow for the second time, her first husband having been Harmon Akes. That same spring Harvey M. built a house on the hill above the dugout and farmed land near. On July 3rd 1850 their son James McCaslin was born, but lived just a few months, dying in Feb. 1851. Harvey M. Jr. was born on Dec. 13, 1851 and the next spring 1852 the little family moved to Draper, settling in the northern part. July 17, 1854 another another son, Samuel Lafayette came to gladden their hearts but when he was only three weeks old the settlement was visited by grasshoppers, which took all their crops. They and others suffered a great deal and they lost a number of animals on account of scarcity of food.

In Aug. 1856 Margaret E's people, Archibale Kerr and family, Father and Mother Frost came to Draper to live with Harvey M. and wife for a while until they could build a home. In Sep. 1856 Joseph S. Rawlins took small pox and as they were all together others took it before they knew what it was. Archibal Kerr, however, had it so light that he worked on his house every day he had it.

During their residence in Draper four more children were born, Franklin A. Jan. 1857, Penina Jane April 1859, Mary Eveline No. 1861, and Joseph W. Mar. 1854. When Franklin A. was quite small, the family moved to South Draper and built a two room adobe house and set out a peach orchard. Margaret E. suffered considerable with rheumatism but in spite of it all she gathered wool and with mother Frost helped spin it into cloth and made it into clothing during the winter of 1862 and 1863. In March 1863 their daughter Margaret Elzira married Marion Kerr and moved to Richmond Utah to live.

In August 1861 Margaret E's brother, Samuel B. Frost and six children came to the Rawlins home to live until he could build himself a house. They raised enough garden products to supply both families that year. Their daughter Margaret E. Kerr came back in the summer for a visit and on March 16, 1864 her baby was born, but lived only two months. During the following winter they had a great deal of sickness, pneumonia, measles, typhoid, rheumatism and scarlet fever.

In April 1864 Harvey M. was called to help settle disputes with the Indians who were stealing cattle, therefore, they sold out in Draper and moved to Spring City. They planted a crop, but frost took the grain and in Oct. 1865 they returned to Draper to learn the sad news of the death and burial of their daughter Margaret E. Kerr. She had given birth to another son Sept. 11, 1865 and died Sept. 16, 1865 which was a great shock to her parents. Harvey M. and wife stayed a few days to rest in Draper then went to father James Rawlins, where they lived until Nov. 1, 1865 when they moved to Richmond, Cache Co, Utah, found their motherless grandson, weaned their own baby and nursed their grandson until he was eight months old, when his father took him. They built themselves a house near where the school house now stands in Richmond.

In 1866 Father and Mother Frost came to Richmond and in Oct. 1866 another son Alma Frost Rawlins was born. The grasshoppers were bad so in the summer of 1867 Harvey M. went to Draper and put in a crop, but was called home on account of sickness in the family. Harvey M. also worked at Kase Crick and Echo Canyon on the railroad.

On May 14, 1868 a baby girl, Elva Armita was born and in Sept. of that year Mother Frost died. In the spring of 1870 they sold out to Richmond School Board and built another home in the south part of Richmond. That fall Harvey M. drove to Salt Lake City with a load of grain and came home sick with a carbuncle on his back and suffered a long time with it. Some of the children were also very sick that winter and in the spring of 1871 Harvey M. went to Lewiston and built a shanty and moved the family in April, except two children who were left in Richmond a few weeks to finish school. They raised a crop that year and in December went back to Richmond for the winter where, in Feb. 1872, their son Jasper Alfonzo was born. In April they came back to Lewiston to live, but lost their crop by frost that year and had to buy their flour at Richmond. A few families were now living in Lewiston so they had neighbors even if they were scattered. In May 1874 Father Frost, who had lived with Harvey M. and family most of the time, died and the following August their youngest daughter Nancy Ellen was born. That summer they raised nice large watermelons by the wagon loads. As there were now about twenty families living in Lewiston they felt the need of irrigation water so Harvey M. and others helped to bring the water from Worm Creek for that purpose. Later water was brought from Cub river. The home of Harvey M. Rawlins was always open to those in need. His wife Margaret E. becoming the first president of the Relief Society in Lewiston brought them in close contact with sickness and death in the community and never was their work too pressing or night too stormy to keep them from answering a call, to help those in distress. They had a great deal of sickness in their own family but in spite of that others were also taken care of. Harvey M. was a man of few words, but extremely blunt and to the point in expressing himself. He was kind but severe on the wrong doer and extremely independent. He started working on the farm as soon as old enough to work and continued until age and health would no longer allow him to work. Although he was not very large or strong a man he helped in pioneering a new country wherever he went in the various occupations necessary to that country as well as to help on the railroad at various times both in Idaho and Montana.

Harvey M. not only supported his own immediate family but very often took other relatives into his home while he helped them to prepare a home for themselves, and even Saints coming from other places could find a welcome place in his home to stay until they secured a home of their own.

In 1900 Harvey M's eyes began failing him and gradually got worse until in 1901 he went blind. Nov. 1908 was the last time he went to the polls to vote as he took sick with a cold shortly after and was sick until spring. He was hardly well after that, but bothered with a cough all the rest of his life. On Sept. 7, 1913 he took very sick dying two days later at the age of 88 years and 7 months. He had been married 67 years, and blind 12 years. He had been blessed with 12 children, about 92 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren, about 97 of whom were living at the time of his death, all faithful Latter Day Saints.

Sketch of Life of H. W. Rawlins Sr. by himself

I'm giving a sketch of my early experience of the Church. I first joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints about the middle of June 1844. On the 27th of the same month and of the same year our Prophet Joseph and Hyrum Smith were murdered at Carthage. As I was living only eight miles from that place, next morning at eight o'clock, myself and Bro. Isaac Stuart went to the jail and saw them hawling the dead bodies of our Prophet and Patriarchs Hyrum and John Taylor, and the blood on the ground where they set Joseph against the well curb.

The next instant of much note was that of the burning of 1845 south of Nauvoo about 18 miles at what was called Green Plains and High Land Branch. The burning first began with the burning on a man's barn by the name of Durphy. He stepped out to see something about it and the mob shot and killed him. From that they kept on and burned people's dwelling, sent word to people to move out, they were going to burn their houses. There was a company organized to guard the settlement. I was one of that company, saw many houses burned and lying in ashes, their families sitting around the fire in the scorching sun. There are many more incidences of this burning I might relate but time and space will not permit.

In the spring of '46, left Illinois, crossed the Mississippi River in a flat boat, (became frightened) with a herd of cattle. They became frightened and rushed end of boat, and the boat dipped water, that frightened them and they rushed to other end sinking the boat. Both men and cattle were thrown into the river and many came very near being drown, myself being one of that number, but all were saved.

I then came on with a company of Saints to Council Bluffs, and stopped. 'Twas then the call came for five hundred volunteers to go fight the Mexicans, what is known as the Mormon Battalion. I was away on business at the time, got back just in time to see them before starting away. I stayed there until the spring of 48 then started to Utah.

Margaret Elzilah Frost Rawlins

Margaret Elzilah Frost, the youngest child of McCaslin and Pennia Smith Frost was born 28 of April 1830 at Knox Co. Tenn. Her early life was spent much as other saints, moving about from one place to another, wherever work could be obtained.

When a small child, she moved to Hancock Co. and from there to Jefferson Co. Iowa, and it was while living in the latter place that her sister Martha McKinney married Harmon Akes in the spring of 1840. A wild turkey came to the door the day before and was shot by the father and used for the wedding feast. The reception was held at night so little Margaret was left at home alone, save for a large dog to protect her from prowling Indians.

She had very little opportunity for schooling due to unsettled condition, but she took advantage of all she could. We find a note to the affect that she attended school in 1842 and Rebecca Frost and Abigail Pond were among her early teachers.

Her brother, Samuel B. Frost, had joined the church in Nauvoo, and shortly after the sisters wedding, he came from Bear Creek, Illinois preaching the gospel and converted his father, mother, sisters Nancy and husband Archibal Kerr, Ferebe and husband William Harrison Barger, and Martha and husband Harmon Akes. His sister Isabella and husband didn't believe the gospel then, so were not baptized when he returned in a short time to baptize his father and family. Margaret, however, was not baptized when the others were, probably because of her age, but when he returned home for another visit in 1842 he baptized his little sister, and Henry Miller confirmed her at the water's edge.

Father Frost rented a place five miles from Carthage and lived there several years, still living there at the time of the Martyrdom of the Prophet. Shortly after, they moved on to another rented place but in May 1846 mobs began burning homes and causing so much trouble they left this place and went to Council Bluff

where they spent the summer. In the fall of 1846 the father and Samuel B. went to Mishmabotany, a place about sixty miles further down the river, where Samuel B. bought a place and they all lived there for a time. There Margaret E. found work helping take care of a sick lady and looking after her house work. One day the man of the house tore a large hole in his coat while going through the brush, so Margaret E. offered to mend it and did such a good job, being so neat and particular with all kinds of hand work, that he was well pleased and let others know, so that the neighbors brought hand work for her to do.

It was while she was living at this place that Harvey M. Rawlins, his brother Joseph S. and wife Mary Frost Rawlins came after her and here on the 3rd of December 1846 she became the wife of Harvey M. The men found work splitting wood and odd jobs to support their families, while they all lived quite close together in order to furnish education for their children.

Margaret's first child, a little girl Margaret Elzarah was born April 30, 1848, and when but two weeks old they started west to make the journey to the Rocky Mountains. This journey was not accomplished in a day and not without its hardships. They suffered considerable from sickness and other troubles common to pioneer traveling over unbroken roads and fording streams of water so that it was not until October 12, 1848, about six months after beginning the journey that they arrived in Salt Lake City. They only remained there over night then went south of the city to locate a home, choosing one at Big Cottonwood, about fourteen miles south of the city. However, they only remained there a short time when they went to Draper to make their home. In fact, they were among the first settlers in Draper and it was while there that most of their family was born.

They endured the hardships with other early settlers in a new country, but their home was always open and nearly always full of others less fortunate than themselves. It must have tried their power of management to the utmost to find room for so many extra ones and to find food to feed them, but they accomplished all, cheerfully and without complaint. Margaret did her own work, cooked the meals corded and spun the yarn, wove the cloth and made the clothing for the family, and even found time to aid those in need. She had numerous sick spells, herself, as well as her family, and proved herself to be an excellent nurse.

In April 1864 they sold their place in Draper and went to Spring City to help in settlement of that place, but only stayed there a few months and in October 1865 came back to Draper. As they had no home they now lived with their father James Rawlins for about a month when on November 1st, they moved to Richmond.

Here they purchased a lot, built a house and lived there until the spring of 1870 when they again sold, this time to the School Trustees who wished to build a district school house on that particular corner. We find our relatives again taking up their abode to help pioneer a new community. They purchased land, built a house and moved the family to Lewiston in 1870, which place is still owned by members of the family.

Here as in other places they sheltered, fed and nursed their own family and any others who needed their care. Summers were spent in Lewiston, winters in Richmond until April 1, 1871 they came to Lewiston to stay. When they first came to Lewiston the native grass stood three feet high, waving in the breeze and dotted here and there with wild pea flowers, presenting a most beautiful sight, so that it was no wonder Richmond felt bad to see Lewiston being settled as they lost their wonderful pastures that they had used for their cows.

William H. Lewis was appointed to preside over Lewiston in 1872-73. In 1873 Margaret E. got wool from Caroline Allen and spun and wove it into cloth, giving back half of the cloth for pay for the wool. It was this same winter Harvey M. Jr. went freighting on the road in Montana.

Lucinda R. Cunningham, John and Patsy (Martha M.) Wiser, Hyrum and Martha Karren all lived here on the flat, while Archy and Nancy Kerr lived down on Bear River. Margaret's father, McCaslin Frost, lived with her the last few months of his life, dying at her home May 12, 1874. Shortly after his death, Archy and Nancy Kerr came and made their home with the Rawlins family for about a month. The summer of 1874 was a hot, dry, windy one and two boys in Richmond were killed by lightning. There were about eighteen or twenty families living here now and as they felt the need of water to irrigate their crops, they made a ditch from Worm Creek to carry the water, which ditch served the purpose for a few years until the larger canal was built from Cub River.

As the settlement grew, and more families came they felt the need of more organization in the community, therefore, on 6th January 1876 the Relief Society was organized with Margaret E. as president, Lucinda R. Cunningham as 1st, Martha Lewis as 2nd Councillers, Susan Terry as secretary and Caroline Allen treasurer, and with twenty-three members.

The brethren donated to start a fund. Margaret E. Served the Society as best she could, visiting the sick, preparing the dead for burial and trying to

comfort the broken-hearted. Later Martha Lewis was released and Martha Karren put in her place, Lucinda R. Cunningham was released and Martha Wiser put in her place. On May 20, 1877 William H. Lewis was set apart as Bishop and June 10, 1877 his councilors, William Hendricks and Hans Funk was sustained.

April 28, 1880 Margaret's 50th birthday, the Relief Society gave her a surprise. They pitched a tent and set table for over fifty people and all had a very nice time. A few days later her husband and some of her children went, with team, to work on the Railroad leaving Margaret and four children home to tend to the farm. In the summer, however, the husband came home, hired a header to cut the grain, then returned to his work again, where they remained until they finished the Railroad work in November.

Franklin A. and Leona Leavitt were married December 18, 1879 and lived with Margaret E. and husband while building a home of their own. The summer of 1881 found Margaret E. sick for several months with a pain in her stomach. About this time they built their barn and purchased a header and cut grain for custom. Harvey M. became trustee of the school in connection with George Leavitt.

The Logan Temple was dedicated May 17, 1884 and these good people were able to attend. That same summer the Relief Society purchased a lot for \$100.00. Later they fenced it and built a granary. Margaret E. spent much time with her children or had them with her during their sickness or trouble, which was quite often, until she was in dread all the time. January and February 1891 she helped lay out six children in F. M. Stephenson's family and two in Benjamin Cherry's family, and two others, all dying with Dypththeria. On April 26, 1891 her grandson Nurl Rawlins died with membranous Croup and a few days or a week later George F., his brother, was taken sick with Dypththeria and for a long time he lay at the point of death, but finally overcame the disease.

Margaret E. attended a conference meeting in Richmond January 20, 1893 and while she was up speaking word came to the meeting that her grandson James H. Kerr (her eldest daughter's son) was killed in a gravel pit. This news was a great shock and shattered her nerves so that they were never quite the same after.

Margaret E. and husband were, also, permitted to attend the dedication of the Salt Lake Temple in April 1893 and on July 19th of that same year the Relief Society was organized by law under the direction of L. John Nuttel, making it a national organization. She was called to Syracuse, Utah to the death bed of her sister Nancy Kerr, where she nursed her for a time before she died March 16, 1901. She, also, took care of Lucinda R. Cunningham for two weeks until she died in 1901. That same summer the Relief Society built a house on their property to provide a home for the poor or widows, that the Ward had to care for. Eliza C. Champion, who had emigrated here and been given a home in the Rawlins home, was put in this house to live. On August 26, 1902 Margaret E. buried another sister, Martha Wiser. She was released as President of the Relief Society April 29, 1902 having served in that capacity for nearly twenty-six years. The last trip she went on the train was to attend the funeral services of her great grandchild, son of James Roy Leavitt on November 1, 1902.

Then on August 7, 1903 Arvella, was born to her son Franklin A. and Leona Leavitt, the mother Leona dying and leaving the new baby to the care of Elzira. The food didn't agree with the baby so Cora B., wife of J. A. Rawlins took the baby to nurse, but it was sick and so delicate it died Oct. 6, 1903. In November 1903 Margaret E. fell and broke her hip and suffered a great deal and was in bed a long time, but by faith and prayers she was healed and in the spring 1904 was able to walk a block to Eva Leavitt's home by taking a chair and sitting down every little way.

During the twenty-six years she was President of the Relief Society she cared for at least 125 or more bodies for burial. December 3, 1911 she celebrated her 65th year of married life with 38 children and grandchildren present at her home. At that time her posterity numbered 12 children, 92 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, 97 of whom were living and all faithful Latter Day Saints. Another event which happened during her life time and was enjoyed by her was a Frost Reunion held on McCaslin Frost's birthday Dec. 11, 1906. There were 200 present.

In the spring of 1908 she and her husband moved in the northwest room of the old home to be by themselves and their son J. A. (Alf) and wife occupied the rest of the house. Here she did her own work and cooking for herself and husband, caring for him during his sickness and death which occurred Sept. 9, 1913 at the age of 88 years 7 months. The funeral was held in the Opera House on Friday and 6 of their grandsons were pall bearers. Her health was failing quite rapidly and she was, also very lonely after losing her companion, who had been quite a care for the last few years, especially since he went blind. She first noticed a rough place on her face which kept getting worse until it developed into a cancer, which caused her several years of intense suffering and was finally the cause of her death which occurred April 4, 1920.

History taken from her own notes and compiled by
Nellie L. Rawlins