



FREDERICK ANDRUS MILLER

1838-1922

Frederick Andrus Miller, the oldest of three boys, was born in New York City, New York, on 24 March 1838, to Frederick A. and Mary Wilson Miller. He lived in New York until July 1846. Frederick's father died when he was four years old. The family moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where they joined the LDS Church. He was baptized 31 March 1849. On 2 April 1851, the family started the trek to Utah in the Morris Phelps Company and arrived in Salt Lake City 27 September 1851.

While crossing the plains, they came to a place known as the Horn River. The streams were high and they had no bridges or boats to cross. They traveled through new country where bridges and roads had to be made. They came to the old road on the Platte River about twenty miles west of Buffalo Creek. The buffalo were in great herds and covered the hills and plains. Sometimes the teams were stopped to let them pass.

After they reached Salt Lake, Frederick worked for Jesse Haven for two years. During the summers he received eight dollars per month. He worked for his board in the fall and winter months. He cut wood and built fires at school to pay for his school tuition. In February 1854, he moved to Bingham's Fort and worked for Luman A. Shurtliff for ten dollars per month. In the winter of 1855-56, he worked for Pleasant Green Taylor who was on a mission in Lemhi. It was known as the hard winter. The snow was deep and most of the cattle starved to death.

Pleasant Green Taylor rented part of his farm to Frederick in 1855. He tended it and had a prospect of getting a good crop, but the grasshoppers took most of it. Provisions and clothing were scarce, so he had very few clothes and not much to eat. However, in 1856 he got a small crop, after the grasshoppers had their fill. The grasshoppers came back for three or four years.

In June 1856 water was scarce. Frederick worked with others to make a new canal to take water from the Ogden River, but did not get water out until the next year.

Frederick was called to the Lemhi Mission in October 1857. The object of the mission was to educate the Indians and teach them the Gospel. They were very friendly until the "mountaineers" of the area talked them into stealing the cattle and driving the missionaries out of the area. On 25 February 1858, about 200-300 Indians came upon them and killed two of the missionaries: George McBride and James Miller, both of Farmington. Five others were wounded. The Indians drove off about 300 head of cattle and horses, which left the missionaries with few teams. Ezra J. Barnard and Baldwin H. Watts carried the news to Salt Lake, and about 200 men and some teams came to their assistance. They left Lemhi on 28 March 1858.

Frederick took Lewis W. Shurtliff and his wife from Lemhi to Salt Lake, because they had lost their team. On the way to Utah they each stood guard for eight hours out of twenty-four from the time the trouble began until they arrived in Salt Lake. The snow was deep through the mountains and they had to break roads most of the way.

When Frederick arrived in Ogden on 11 April 1858, settlers from Weber County had moved from their homes to the southern part of the territory. They left a few men behind to burn everything if the U.S. Army should force themselves to the territory. Frederick joined the saints in Springville, where he found his mother.

In the summer of 1859, Frederick was back at Bingham's Fort working for Pleasant Green Taylor doing farm work. He also worked for David Moore hauling logs from the mountains, and in 1860 worked for H. V. Shurtliff on a farm in Harrisville.

In April 1861, Frederick joined Joseph Horn's company to go to Omaha and help bring saints into the valley. On their way home they passed the U.S. Army, which had been called back from Utah because of the rebellion in the Southern States. He arrived in Ogden in September.

In 1862 he moved to Harrisville and worked for H. V. Shurtliff. The rivers that year were the highest on record in Utah. The bottom lands were flooded and the high water swept the bridges away. The Ogden River left its channel and had to be turned back to its original place before some of the people could irrigate their crops. For the next few years he had a variety of jobs in order to make money to support his family.

Frederick bought nine acres of land from the James Brown estate in 1865. It was located on Washington Boulevard by the Ogden River. The land was covered with willows and rose brush. He worked the ground and cultivated it for two years. In the winter of 1868, he traded it to Thomas Williams for 20 acres of land in the Lynne Ward. On 4 March 1868, he moved with his mother and grandmother to Lynne where they lived in a two-room log house. The land was run down and had to be worked.

Frederick married Generva Shaw, a daughter of William and Diana Chase Shaw on 31 October 1870. Daniel H. Wells performed the ceremony in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City. On 28 July 1871 they had a son, which they named Frederick S. Miller. On 11 August 73, they had another son named William. He died on 23 April 1874 of whooping cough and teething. A third son, James, was born 27 December 1874. 14 March 1876, Frank was born. Mary, the first daughter came into the world on 14 November 1877. Other children included Jerome, 21 August 1879, Geneva, 22 March 1881, Diana, 10 April 1883, Margaret, 15 November 1884, Agnes, 2 March 1888, Rosabell, 26 November 1889, Robert Leslie, 4 December, 1891, Archie Donald, 15 February, 1893, Jesse Ezra, 29 September 1894, and Juliett Flossie, 5 July 1899.

In 1875, officials elected Miller as trustee for the Lynne School district. The Lynne school, located on 2nd Street below Wall Ave. in what is now Ogden City, was an adobe building that

was never finished. It was not worth finishing or repairing and the school board appointed Frederick to superintend the building of a new brick school house measuring 40 by 24 feet (Also located in Lynne). The building was finished in 1877 and furnished with first class desks. The school was also used for church services.

Frederick kept busy with his own land and other lands that he rented. In 1876 the crickets were thick. Farmers dug trenches to catch the grasshoppers and hauled straw for them to roost in. They then lit the straw on fire and burned them. The ones they did not kill flew away when their wings grew.

With the family growing, Frederick built a brick home, in Lynne, that measured 30 by 18 feet. It had one and one half stories and four large rooms. This was a nice change from the two-room log cabin they had been used to.

Frederick held many offices in his life. He was re-elected as school trustee in 1880 and served as a school trustee in Lynne and Harrisville for a total of twenty years. He was appointed administrator of James Anderson's estate in 1881 and on 9 April 1883, Thomas Wilson gave him charge of his affairs and deeded his property to him as Wilson was going to Scotland. He was elected alderman of the Fourth Municipal Ward of Ogden 12 February 1883, serving there for two terms. He also served as justice of the peace for six years. Six years.

In 1890 Miller sold his farm in Lynne to Thomas D. Dee. He sold his remaining nine acres of land to A. J. Cropsy and received \$15,000 for both pieces. Frederick bought 26 acres of land from Pleasant Green Taylor in Harrisville for \$2,200, and built a two-story house with nine rooms (1025 North Harrisville Rd.). He also erected a barn and grainery. Because of his past experience, he was soon elected as the Harrisville school Trustee (1893), a position he held for eight years.

Frederick Miller was an active member of the LDS Church. On 20 December 1890, he was ordained a High Priest by Lewis W. Shurtliff and called as ward clerk. In 1892 he was set apart as first counselor to Bishop Pleasant Green Taylor. He served for four years. He was a hard working man all of his life and a good provider for his large family. He taught his sons how to work and be thrifty. His daughters were taught the arts of homemaking and thrift by their mother.

Generva Miller, Frederick's devoted wife, and a wonderful mother, suffered from rheumatism, which caused her death on 23 July 1920. She was the mother of 16 children, nine boys and seven girls, 15 of which she raised to maturity. Two sons, Frank and Reuben, filled missions for the LDS church, and two sons, Archie and Jesse, served in the armed forces during World War I.

On the night of 23 September 1922, Frederick retired in his usual good health and slept away peacefully from this world. He was found the next morning by a son, James, and a daughter, Flossie, who still lived in the old home with him. He was 83 years old.

SOURCE:

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Brown, James	Miller, Mary
Chase, Diana	Miller, Mary Wilson
Dee,, Thomas D.	Miller, Robert Leslie
Haven, Jesse	Miller, Rosabell
Horn, Joseph	Miller, William.
Limhi Mission	Moore, David
McBride, George	Phelps, Morris
Miller, Agnes	Sahw, Generva
Miller, Archie Donald	Shaw, Diana Chase
Miller, Diana	Shaw, William
Miller, Frank	Shurtliff, H. V.
Miller, Frederick A.	Shurtliff, Lewis W.
Miller, Frederick andrus	Shurtliff, Luman A.
Miller, Frederick S.	Taylor, Pleasant Green
Miller, Geneva,	Taylor, Pleasant Green
Miller, James	Watts, Baldwin H.
Miller, JamesBarnard, Ezra J.	Wells, Daniel H.
Miller, Jerome	Williams, Thomas
Miller, Jesse Ezra	Wilson, Mary
Miller, Juliett Flossie	Wilson, Thomas