

*Gift, Mr. Frank Allen  
Feb. 1967*

LIFE SKETCH

of

SIMEON FRANKLIN ALLEN

and

REBECCA OSBORN ALLEN

and

The Family Groups of their  
Descendants

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## Acknowledgement

It was through the inspiration we received from the following poem that led us to have this book compiled.

Lest I forget my friends and things around me,  
As through this life I go from day to day,  
I'll build a book  
And in some nook  
Record the things they do and say.

Lest I forget my parents or some loved one,  
Though they are dead or from my side afar,  
From age to age  
Another page,  
Will tell me who and what they are.

Lest I forget my God and my religion,  
Lest atheism darken all my light,  
This record here  
May keep me near,  
To friends and folks and all that's right.

(Poem composed by Lester H. Campbell)

\* \* \*

The compilers of this history, Spencer F. and Sarah Darley Allen, acknowledge their indebtedness to Alvin, Spencer's brother, for allowing us to use his compilation of "The Life Sketch of Simeon Franklin Allen." We are also grateful for his help in the arrangement and proof-reading of the book, and to his daughter, Reta, for grammatical assistance and typing of most of the contents for its submission to the printer. We thank all of the married descendants of Father and Mother, Simeon Franklin and Rebecca Osborn Allen for furnishing us with their family group records and group photographs.

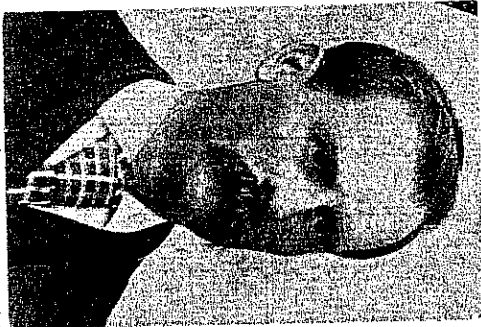
I, Spencer, deeply appreciate the cooperation received from the co-author, my wife, who took care of all the correspondence in getting these family groups.

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# Life Sketch of Simeon Franklin Allen

Compiled by his son, Alvin Allen, 1951



SIMEON FRANKLIN ALLEN

Simeon Franklin Allen, generally called Frank, was born 3 April 1839 at Litchfield, Michigan, then a small farming district. His father, Ira Allen, was born 27 April 1814 at Thompson (now Putnam) Windham County, Connecticut, and died 21 December 1900 at Hyrum, Utah. Frank's mother, Calista Bass Hyrum, was born 22 May 1812 at Ashford, Connecticut, died etc., (see page 66 History of Ira Allen and for Ira's forefathers p. VI, VII, VIII, for descendants of Ira Allen p. 65 to 175.)

Frank was six years old when his father joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 9 February 1845. About five months later the family moved to Nauvoo, Illinois, to be with the body of the Church. A year later, 15 June 1846, Ira, his wife, and four children: Andrew A., Frank, Elizabeth, and Emily, were driven by mobs from Nauvoo along with other Church members and journeyed westward through Iowa. (For an account of the exiled Saints from Nauvoo to Utah, read History of Ira Allen pp. 16-32).

Ira's family remained at Winter Quarters on the Missouri River for three and a half years along with many other Saints. Different immigrant companies would come and go. Those who remained cared for the gardens and farm crops.

Ira's family left for Utah the summer of 1850 and arrived at Salt Lake City 30 October 1850. Ages of the family members when reaching Utah were: Ira 36, Calista 38, Andrew 14, Frank 11½, Elizabeth 7½, Emily 6, Joseph, born in Iowa, 4. During the three-week stay in Salt Lake City, a town then a little over three years old, Ira repaired his two wagons; Frank and Andrew herded cows and did other odd jobs to get provisions for the family. (To learn of what happened in Salt Lake City before Ira's family arrived, read History of Ira Allen p. 30).

In November 1850 Brigham Young called Ira's family, along with others, to go south 55 miles and help build Springville. Ira was sustained as the first Sunday School superintendent at Springville and also acted on the town board. Frank and Andrew, ages 13 and 15, helped their father in the canyon get out logs for a house and for wood for the fireplace. During the winter the children attended school in a log house where they studied reading, writing, spelling, and some arithmetic.

The Indians were hostile at times and the families were frightened. Frank remembered how Andrew and their father took turns standing guard on the outskirts of town when Indians were apt to try to drive off the horses, oxen, or cows. In 1953 the Indian Walker War broke out and their father enlisted to help fight the Indians at Springville and southward.

When Frank was 13½ years old his father entered into polygamy, in 1852, marrying Keziah Benson Judy, the widow of Clark Judy. Clark and Keziah had a young son named William, called Bill.

In 1852 Ira's two families and about 100 other families were called by Brigham Young to go some 200 miles south to reinforce Cedar City where Indians were causing trouble. Those families took furniture, clothing, food, and grain for planting. On the journey southward the children gathered wool from sagebrush which had been left by sheep herds. This wool was washed, carded into rolls, and spun into yarn from which stockings were made.

The first winter at Cedar City the family lived in a tent, some slept in wagons. The next year a log house was built. During their stay of about seven years, Frank, Andrew, Elizabeth and Emily helped in the garden and on the farm and herded cows and sheep near the home. The cows supplied milk and the sheep supplied wool for all the clothing of the family and woolen blankets and bays for quilts.

On August 25, 1856 Ira married a third wife, Cynthia Elizabeth Benson, sister of his second wife.

At Cedar City the following children were born to the second wife, Keziah: George Clark 11 December 1853, Albert Jay 26 April 1855, Ethen Ira 13 May 1857, David Benson 20 February 1859. To the third wife was born: Cynthia Angella 17 June 1859.

Frank's brother, Andrew, married Sarah Ann Cartwright 14 June 1857, and Frank's sister, Elizabeth, married Thomas Williams.

It was hard to make a good living at Cedar City owing to scarcity of water and poor land. The drinking water from the mountain streams was muddy and had to be settled before using.

## IN SEARCH OF A NEW HOME

Frank heard his father and Alva Benson and Thomas Williams talk about settlements being made north of Salt Lake City where the clear mountain streams flowed into the fertile valleys, and the summers were not so hot. They counselled with their wives and children about leaving Cedar City in Iron County, for northern Utah, part of the families to remain until others could find a new home.

On 10 March 1860 Ira Allen with his wife, Cynthia, their baby, Cynthia Angella, Andrew A. Allen, Elizabeth Allen Williams and her husband, Thomas Williams; Bill Judy; Ira's stepson, Alva Benson, Ira's father-in-law, and his wife and son Moroni Benson; left Cedar City for Cache Valley. They were the first to locate at Hyrum. (For settlement of Hyrum see History of Ira Allen p. 33-37).

Ira Allen and Bill Judy returned to Cedar City in the fall of 1860 to move the rest of the family to Hyrum. They were: Ira's other two wives, Calista and Keziah, Frank, Joseph S., Emily Louise, George C., Albert Jay, Ethen, and David B. They left Cedar City in the early spring of 1861. On reaching Hyrum they found a log house waiting which had been erected by Ira, Andrew, and Bill Judy the previous fall, and stood on the south side of main street, just east of where the dentist's and doctors offices now stand (1952). Frank was sustained as the first Sunday School superintendent in Hyrum and was a ward teacher for several years.

A year had passed and Frank was 23 years old and had not found a mate. One day in the summer of 1862 the neighbors next door west moved out of their house. Hans Johnson's family who had lived at South Weber, eight miles south of Ogden, were now in Hyrum and moved into this vacant house. Boletta, a 17½-year-old daughter of the Johnson's, and Frank caught each other's fancy. Frank thought that she was the girl he had been waiting for. They were seen chatting together often. In fact, she offered her services to help nurse Frank's mother Calista, the last six months before his mother died. Their affection for each other grew during this time. The courtship lasted a year and a half and they married 5 December 1863 in the Endowment House at Salt Lake City.

For one year they lived with Frank's folks during the daytime and at night slept in a covered wagon box. Other members of the family also slept in wagon boxes or tents. In 1864 Frank got out logs from the canyon east of Paradise, using an ox team for hauling them. A one-room house was built on a lot one block south of his father's home on the south side of the street. Andrew built one on the north side of the street the same year.

Frank's wife, in relating early married experiences, said "The second year of our married life we lived in a one-room log house with a dirt roof. This room was not lacking in furnishings. It contained a wheat bin, bench, flour bin, bed and a cradle for our first child. The floor was bare and the rafters formed the ceiling. Two years later a granary was built and the wheat bin was removed from the house. A few years later we had a homemade cupboard with 8-inch-wide shelves at the top for dishes and towels, and 16-inch shelves at the bottom for cooking utensils, meat, flour, and bread. We also had a homemade rocking chair, table, wooden buckets, butter paddles, a barrel, churn, bows, tub, benches, hand-woven rugs, soap made from grease and lye, and bootjack and mudscrapers for outside.

The following children were born in that log house: Heber Simeon 26 December 1864, George Willford 24 April 1867, Reuben Franklin 18 October 1869, Alvin 7 March 1872, Ida Vilate 4 October 1874 in the unfinished frame house.

During the years 1873-45 timber for a large frame house was obtained from Blacksmith Fork Canyon east of Hyrum, and the house was completed in 1875. The following children were born in this frame house: Luella Jane 15 July 1876, Lovina Amelia 12 July 1879, Jennie May 15 November 1887. (For descendants of this first marriage see History of Ira Allen pp. 78-103).

Frank married a second wife, Rebecca Osborn, 21 November 1875. Frank's two wives shared the same new house, the second wife occupying the east two rooms for a few years. Then a frame house was erected for Rebecca one-half block east. The following children were born to this second marriage:

Ira Jefferson b 3 November 1876 at Hyrum, Utah.  
Ida Elizabeth b 23 March 1879 at Hyrum, Utah.  
Alma David b 9 August 1881 in Arizona.  
Spencer F. b 27 December 1883 at Hyrum, Utah.  
Eva Marrella b 11 February 1886 at Hyrum, Utah.  
Calista b 23 December 1890 at Cardston, Canada.

Bertha b 18 September 1892 at Cardston, Canada.  
Zina Alberta b 12 August 1894 at Cardston, Canada.  
Maud b 17 September 1897 at Hyrum, Utah.  
Nellie b 17 April 1900 at Hyrum, Utah.

For family groups of this second marriage and descendants, see pp 104-108 of History of Ira Allen.)

Frank followed farming mainly from 1861 to 1879, other work was in the canyon where he obtained all of the wood for fuel used in the kitchen stoves and heaters. He also chopped down green logs and had lumber sawed. His first farm was in the field about two miles northwest of his home where he worked 25 acres of land. This was considered a large farm in those early days when at first all the grain was cut by hand with a cradle.

In speaking of cutting grain on this farm, Boletta, Frank's wife, said, "My husband had land two miles from home where he raised wheat which had to be cut with a cradle. He and the hired man had to camp right down there during harvest time. They would start cutting the wheat as soon as they could see in the morning. After a couple of hours of work they stopped for breakfast and then cut again until about 11 o'clock. They rested during the heat of the day, from 11 to 3 o'clock, and then cut as long as they could see in the evening. Every day while they harvested, I cooked enough food for the two men for three meals and carried it down to them. I made that long walk to the field besides doing my regular work at home."

Frank was a good provider. Most of the city lot was planted to garden stuff — potatoes, corn, peas, radishes, turnips, lettuce, cucumbers, summer and winter squash and beans, pumpkins, watermelons; also some fruit trees — pears, plums, apples, cling-stone peaches, and some small fruit — red English currants, the black (beebus) currants, raspberries, blackberries, strawberries. Some of the winter squash was baked and some cut in strips and dried for winter use and the cows received the rest. The pumpkins went into pumpkin butter and pies.

Frank always kept from one to four cows which furnished the family all the milk and butter they could use and some to sell. One or two pigs furnished the winter meat and cooking lard.

Most of a three-acre piece of land in the northwest part of town was planted to sugar cane each year and the two families had all the molasses made from this cane that they could use. Molasses was used in place of sugar for many years and the children often said, "Ma, give me some bread and butter covered with molasses."

Frank was one of the "minute men" and stood guard in the Fort and later on the outskirts of town if Indians were apt to molest cattle or residents. (See picture in History of Ira Allen p. 49; also read "Farm Implements" p. 46-50.)

In the late '70's Frank rented a farm in College Ward where grain was cut with a self-rake at first, and later by a harvester. In the '80's he took up 160 acres of government land southeast of Hyrum in the foothills. His four sons sons — Heber, Willford, Reuben, and Alvin — did most of the plowing, harrowing, mowing and hauling of the lucerne and cutting of the

Stinson Franklin Allen made a living by farming at first, kept cows and tended gardens so the families would have a variety of food for summer and winter use. In the fall of 1880 he contracted the building of railroad grades in Arizona, and his wife, Rebecca, with two small children went to cook for the workmen. He had railroaded in Montana two or three years in the late '70's.

A very sad and trying incident happened when the company reached southern Utah. The two children contracted diphtheria and Ira, age 4, died 18 December 1880 and was buried at Draper, Utah. Rebecca and her sick child Ada, was sent back to Logan by railroad train where the child could be under a doctor's care. Medical aid did not avail and Ada, age 1 year 10 months, died at Logan 2 January 1881. Ira Allen, Frank's father, took the child to Hyrum for burial.

Although bereaved and lonely, Rebecca took the train back to the end of the railroad and continued with the company into the wilds of Arizona. During their sojourn in Arizona, the third child was born to Rebecca 9 August 1881 and was named Alma David, Frank's company returned to Hyrum in the late fall.

During the winter of 1881-2 Frank and his brother, Joseph S. Allen, formed a partnership in the mercantile business, known as Allen Brothers. Joseph managed the store and Frank took men and teams to Montana to build railroad grades. The first wife, Boletta, went as cook this year and took her two small children, Luella and Lovina, and left her sons, Reuben and Alvin, with Rebecca. Boletta's older sons, Heber and Wilford, went as railroad hands.

Late in the fall each year Frank and his company would return to Hyrum and when spring came go again to Montana. This continued until the fall of 1887 when Frank sold out in Montana. Then he and his wife, Rebecca, with her three children, Alma, Spencer, and Eva, and Boletta's sons, Heber and Reuben, went to Canada and located at Cardston.

At Mountain View near Cardston Frank homesteaded land and kept some cows. Feed was plentiful on the open prairies. Rebecca made all the butter needed for their own use and considerable for sale to neighbors. During some winters the haystacks were nearly covered with snowdrifts. A hired man assisted with hay harvesting and did the chores when Frank went to Utah to see about store needs and the family at Hyrum. Frank did considerable work at the Logan Temple during winter months.

In the fall of 1895 Rebecca and her family returned to Hyrum, riding in a buggy and covered wagon, the trip covering three weeks. They were pleased to again meet their relatives. The polygamy raid had now nearly subsided and Frank was not molested.

The following children were born to Rebecca at Cardston: Calista 23 February 1890, Bertha 18 September 1892, Zina Alberta 12 August 1894. Four children, born at Hyrum, were: Spencer Franklin 27 December 1893, Eva 11 February 1896, Maud 17 September 1897, Nellie 17 April 1900.

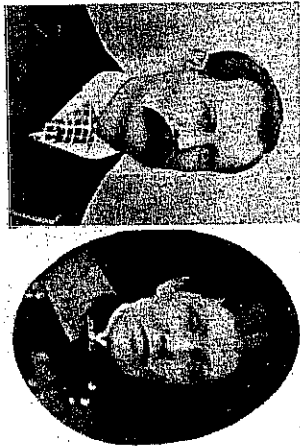
Rebecca worked in the Primary and Relief Society several years. She was always on hand and willing to assist her neighbors in case of sickness. Rebecca's husband was thrown from a horse 16 May 1901 and died a few hours later without regaining consciousness. Her sons, Alma

and Spencer, then had to assume responsibility. Alma was married in October 1902 and Eva married in 1907. Spencer left December 1906 for a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. While Spencer was away his mother filed on a piece of land for him which joined Alma's homestead so that both sons could have farms. The mother became ill and died 7 July 1908. Spencer was released and returned home in July 1908 to help care for his four sisters. He was married 8 October 1908.

After the children were all married and when they visited together they often spoke of the example their father and mother had set. They remembered how faithful the parents had been in attending to church duties, how family prayers were held and the Word of Wisdom taught in the home, not just by precept but by example. So far as they knew their father had never touched tea, coffee, liquor nor tobacco and their mother had likewise abstained from these things. They observed that he had been honest in his dealings. This is a challenge to us, their descendants, to appreciate and emulate the noble and uplifting heritage which is ours.

## SIMEON FRANKLIN ALLEN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

### 2nd Marriage



Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Allen

**Simeon Franklin Allen**, b. 3 April 1839, at Litchfield, Mich., d. 16 May 1901, Hyrum, Utah, m. 24 Nov. 1875.

**Rebecca Osborn**, b. 14 Sept. 1857, East Weber, Utah, d. 7 July 1908, Hyrum, Utah, buried at Hyrum, Utah.

### Children:

1. Ira Jefferson, b. 3 Nov. 1876, Hyrum, Utah, d. 28 Dec. 1880 at Draper, Utah.
2. Ada Elizabeth, b. 23 March 1879, Hyrum, Utah, d. 2 Jan. 1881, Logan, Utah, buried at Hyrum, Utah.
3. Alma David, b. 9 Aug. 1881, St. Joseph, Arizona, m. Edna Ione Unsworth.
4. Spencer Franklin, b. 27 Dec. 1883, Hyrum Utah, m. Sarah G. Darley.
5. Eva Maretta, b. 11 Feb. 1886, Hyrum, Utah, m. Alma Petersen.
6. Calista, b. 23 Dec. 1890, at Cardston, Canada, m. Edwin Clawson.
7. Bertha, b. 18 Sept. 1892, at Cardston, Canada, d. 23 March 1896.
8. Zina Alberta, b. 12 Aug. 1894, at Cardston, Canada, M. Leslie N. Andrus.
9. Maud, b. 17 Sept. 1897 at Hyrum, Utah, m. Charles N. Groom.
10. Nellie, b. 17 Apr. 1900 at Hyrum, Utah, m. James Clinton Maughan.



Children of S. F. Allen

Mrs. Maud Groom, Mrs. Nellie Maughan, Mrs. Calista Clawson, Mrs. Eva Petersen, Mrs. Zina Andrus, Alma, Spencer.

trousseau consisted of two quilts, two pillows, two cotton sheets and an empty straw tick. Her father added a heavy woolen blanket. All the towels she had were two she had made from a yard of factory. They lived in a one-room house in Hyrum, Utah during the first years of their married life.

Treasures of Pioneer History, Vol.5, p.65

In 1901 Simeon Franklin was thrown from a horse and almost instantly killed. Boletta passed away February 26, 1937 at the age of 92 years. At the time of her death she was the oldest woman in Utah in which place she had lived practically all her life since to Utah for the sake of her religion.—*ElGeva Allen*[p.66]

